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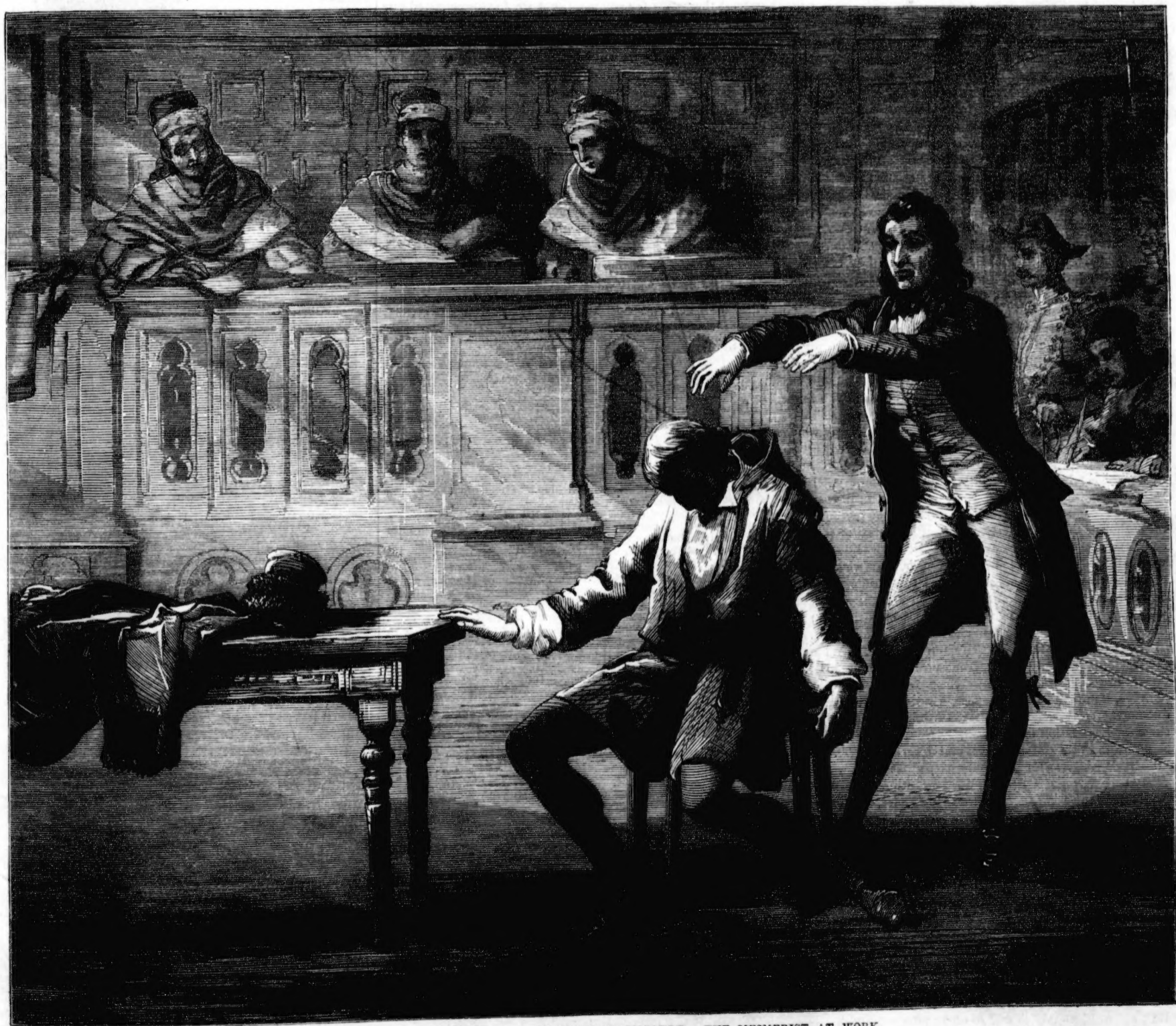
PRICE 3D.

HOME AFFAIRS—LAST YEAR AND THIS.

"Let the dead Past bury its dead" is a sentiment to act upon which, were that always practical, would, perhaps, be more pleasant than profitable. There are probably few of us who would not be glad to forget much of the past—if we could; and there was certainly a good deal connected with Home Affairs during last year the remembrance of which many persons would find it convenient to ignore. But oblivion is not possible, for the Past, though dead, rarely consents to be buried; and it would not be profitable, even if it were possible, for out of that same dead Past light may be evolved for guidance in the Present and Future. The events of one period in a nation's life often beget work, as they furnish themes for reflection, in subsequent epochs; and therefore we propose to review Home Affairs during last year, and see what influence they are likely to exercise in this—what legacies the old year has bequeathed to the new.

Politics, as embodied in the proceedings of Parliament, as naturally claim primary attention from us now as did France last week. With those proceedings great dissatisfaction was expressed, and not altogether without reason, though we cannot help thinking that the dissatisfaction was to some extent simulated, and in a still larger degree unwarranted. Small good would be done by going in detail over the events of last Session, and still less by fighting its battles o'er again. So it may be at once admitted that much valuable time was wasted by Parliament—and that it *was* wasted is just one of the things which some people would probably like to forget, or to have forgotten; then a great deal more was proposed to be done than was, or could have been, accomplished; and not a few of the projects submitted were so crude and ill-digested, both in principle and detail, as to render their rejection a thing more to be desired than their adoption. But, notwithstanding all deficiencies, a fair stroke of political work

was done by Parliament in 1871. We say "political work," because politics almost exclusively absorbed attention during the Session. There was the University Tests Abolition, nominally an educational, but really a political, question, for in it were involved the rights of important sections of the community. The same may be said of Army reform, for the struggle over the abolition of purchase was substantially a struggle for the destruction of a class monopoly and the institution, so far as an important branch of the public service is concerned, of equality among citizens. As for the Ballot, that was a political question, pure and simple. These were the three great questions of the Session; and, curiously enough, each of them left remnants—matters have arisen out of them that have yet to be discussed and settled. Opening up the educational arrangements of the Universities naturally led to an inquiry as to the funds available for instruction at those institutions, and their application. Hence the Commission about to be instituted to investigate the matter, and it is to



SCENE FROM "THE BELLS," AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE: THE MESMERIST AT WORK.



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be hoped the Commissioners, whoever they may be, will do their work thoroughly when they are about it. The ballot question was merely suspended, and must come prominently to the fore early next Session.

Of Army reform, abolition of purchase was only the beginning, and the work must be continued till completed, though its completion will probably devolve more upon our administrators than our legislators; and for that reason it would have been better, perhaps, if the latter had undertaken the work *ab initio*, seeing that abolition of purchase itself was ultimately made a matter of administrative action. With the ground cleared for operations—with real reforms made possible—Mr. Cardwell ought to be able to give the country, in course of time, what she has never had heretofore—a thoroughly efficient Army, though, necessarily, a small one as compared with those of most great European Powers. The raw material of the British Army has always, and is now, inferior to none in the world. Our soldiers have ever been the bravest of the brave, and by stubborn valour have oft made good the defects of their organisation, and would no doubt do so to some extent still. But warfare is now as much a matter of skill as of courage, if not more so; and skill is precisely the quality that could not be secured under the system of officering the Army which has hitherto obtained in England. This was made sufficiently evident during the manoeuvres near Aldershot last autumn. The soldiers there engaged were universally acknowledged to be all that could be wished; whereas the officers, especially in the higher ranks, were as universally acknowledged to be about all that could not be wished. The Secretary for War and the Commander-in-Chief, whoever they may be, must in future change all that, and, by instituting a thorough system of professional training, make the officers as competent to lead as the rank and file are good for following. Mere valour in officers and men has enabled the British Army to achieve great things; and, given skill combined with valour, we may confidently expect our troops to be equal to all or anything that may be required of them. But, as the art of war now stands, skill we must have; and to give us that is the object at which those responsible for the efficiency of the Army must aim.

Of some other measures proposed or passed during last Session a word or two only is necessary at present. The Act relieving lodgers' goods from liability to be seized by the chief landlord for rent due by the intermediate tenant removed one piece of the absurdly one-sided system of law which originated in the times when landlords were the chief, if not the sole, legislators; but there is more work to be done in the same direction still. The law of hypothec, the game laws, the impediments to the transfer of land, and the distinctions made between offences against property and against the person—all the outcome of propertied-men legislation—must each come under review ere long, and be either greatly modified or altogether repealed. Readjustment of local taxation, and rearrangement of control over that taxation and its expenditure, also require looking to; and with that object we may expect the reintroduction of Mr. Goschen's Local Taxation and Local Management Bills, but, we hope, more fully digested and more thoroughly adapted to existing circumstances. Sanitary reform is one feature of this matter that demands special and immediate attention, which we earnestly trust it will receive, even though some political questions—such, for instance, as the adaptation of the House of Lords to the wants of the times, important as that matter is—should be left in abeyance for a while. We are not of those who think political discussions, in Parliament or out of it, ought to be eschewed; for we hold that a people is in a bad way whom politics cease to interest. But social questions merit attention too, and of social questions none are so important as those which relate to the health of the community. Ignorance of sanitary laws, and consequent dirt and disease, are the great social curses in Great Britain just at present; and no higher or more beneficent task could a legislator set himself than that of routing out these pests. The liquor-traffic war will no doubt be renewed this year, but, we hope, unencumbered with some of Mr. Bruce's fantastic proposals of last Session. It is desirable to diminish drunkenness, and with that object to reduce the facilities for drinking; but these objects ought to be pursued in a rational way, and so as not to inflict injustice on anyone. Whatever the teetotallers may think, the publican and his customers are citizens, and have their rights; and what is, perhaps, as much to the purpose, they are in a position to defend themselves, as certain recent election contests have shown. Legislation on this matter, therefore, must be both cautious and fair, or it will fail, and deservedly. The "Prohibitive-Permissive" nostrum is as unjust as it would, we verily believe, prove abortive. For one thing, no local clique has a right to tyrannise over a whole district, as the friends of Prohibitive-Permission openly proclaim their intention of doing—if they can; and we are fully persuaded, moreover, that their nostrum would fail precisely where there is most need for its success. It would be an easy thing, for instance, to obtain a local vote for the suppression—or nearly so—of all public-houses in Belgravia and Tyburnia; but how would such a scheme fare in Whitechapel or the Seven Dials? There, undoubtedly, the publicans would be too strong for the teetotallers, and would rout them utterly in a counting of noses, or even in a vote by rate-payers; and yet it is precisely in those poor districts where a reduction of drinking facilities is most required. But, after all, no means will so effectually cripple the liquor trade as those which tempt men away from the public-house;

and of these means the chief is to render people's homes wholesome, happy, and attractive, which they are not now; and the friends of sobriety should devote their energies to the devising of such means, and not to the application of compulsion, which never will succeed, and never ought to do so.

The past year has been one of great and general prosperity in this country, and the result has been a universal demand on the part of labour for improvements in its condition—a demand which has generally been attended with success; and rightly so. The time was propitious, and the advantages claimed by the working classes, as a rule, were reasonable. In almost every branch of industry either the hours of labour have been reduced or the wages paid have been increased: thus giving the hand-worker that share in the profits of his industry to which the circumstances of the country fairly entitled him. We hope this state of things will continue, not merely in 1872, but permanently; and that there will ever be increased and increasing profits to divide between capital and labour, in which case we may be sure that labour, in virtue of the laws that govern its purchase and sale, will continue to secure its legitimate share. But should a change take place, should a season of adversity succeed one of prosperity, we trust working men will understand how to accommodate themselves to circumstances; and, if a surrender of some portion of the advantages now gained be necessary, that they will accept the inevitable, and make the surrender with a good grace: in other words, that they will not offer a resistance that must be as futile as costly. As a rule, the old rate of wages has been retained for the reduced number of hours worked. That advantage was secured for workmen by the prosperous state of trade and the consequent active demand for labour; and it is highly desirable that the true source of the benefit should be understood and the real basis on which the arrangement rests acknowledged. Shortened working hours may probably become a permanent institution; but the rate of remuneration, depending, as it does, on fluctuating conditions, can never attain the position of a fixed quantity. It must vary—increase or diminish—with changing circumstances, over which neither employers nor employed have control, and it is well that both should distinctly understand this, and govern their action accordingly.

Some other matters connecting the old year with the new suggest themselves for comment, but we have exhausted our space, and must forbear. One controversial legacy—that touching education—is dealt with in some of its phases elsewhere; and the others will keep. We may just add, however, a word of congratulation for Ireland, on which a brighter day appears about to dawn. The operation of the Land Act is producing most beneficial results. Tenants in large numbers are becoming owners of their holdings, and thus a class of yeomen-proprietors is growing up, composed of men who have something to lose by turmoil, and whose care for their own interests will consequently become the best guarantee for the preservation of peace and quietness, and the development of industry and thrift. That is a prospect which must gladden all honest hearts.

"THE BELLS," AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE.

THE "Juif Polonais" of MM. Erckmann-Chatrian may be counted among the most successful of the recent pieces which have raised the little Parisian Théâtre de Cluny to the popular position it now maintains. Of this dramatic study, as the authors modestly entitle it, two versions have recently been given in England. The first, by Mr. Burnand, produced at the Alfred Theatre, departed widely from the original, changing the motive of the story and altering its catastrophe. A second, by Mr. Leopold Lewis, entitled "The Bells," which has been running for some weeks at the Lyceum, is a pretty faithful translation. Few stories grimmer and more gruesome than that of "The Bells" have been put upon the stage. It is a one-part piece, moreover; the interest centring in the principal character to such an extent that the other personages of the play seem little more than shadows. So great, however, is the hold it takes upon the audience, and so powerful the spell exercised over the feelings, that all defects are forgotten, and the whole ranks among the works which dwell on the memory and will not be dismissed.

Mathias, a retired innkeeper, has on his mind the memory of a fearful crime. Years ago, on a bleak night, when the ground was thickly covered with snow, a Polish Jew arrived at his house, and, after partaking of a hurried supper, departed to continue his journey. He had shown, however, his possession of a sum of money large enough to arouse the cupidity of Mathias, whose affairs were at that time in a desperate condition. Taking advantage of a short cut across the fields, the innkeeper got in front of his late guest and knocked out his brains with an axe. A lime-kin standing near disposed of the body and the implement with which the murder was committed, and the snow, thickly falling, covered up the footsteps. No trace, accordingly, of the deed that had been done could be found. Fifteen years have elapsed since the murder; and Mathias, with whom things have prospered, and who is now Burgomaster of his native town, would be happy but for his ill dreams and for the noise of the jingling of the bells of a sleigh which continually rings in his ears at unpropitious moments. To make assurance doubly sure, he arranges a wedding between his daughter Annette and Christian, the head of the police; and he binds over the young man by a large dowry to forfeit his dreams of advancement, and not to seek, by any display of intelligence and zeal, to win promotion that will cause his removal, and so separate Mathias from his daughter. The true reason for this precaution is the desire of the criminal to keep Christian, whose intellect is very penetrating, from inquiring too deeply into the disappearance of the Polish Jew—an investigation for which the young officer shows some taste. Matters are now as safe as Mathias can make them, and were it not for his terrible habit of uttering in his sleep—when the particulars of his crime are reproduced in dreams—words the significance of which those around him have not guessed, he would have few fears. To prevent danger from this source he sleeps by himself in an inner room, and carefully locks the door when he withdraws. The night after his daughter's wedding contract has been signed he retires a little more discomposed than usual. The anniversary of the murder has arrived, the sound of bells has been constant in his ears, and his dreams have been of appalling vividness. To these causes of perturbation may be added the fact that a mesmerist has arrived in the town who professes to make people, while in a trance, reveal the secrets of their lives. Once in bed, a dream, the representation of which is given before the audience, presents itself to him. He sees himself arrested for murder and put on his trial. Evidence against him there is none

except what he himself supplies; but his contradictions, which he cannot avoid, furnish, he sees, a subject of suspicion. At length the mesmerist is sent for, and Mathias, dreading the influence he believes him to possess, struggles terribly but vainly against the power which charms him to sleep. Under mesmeric influences he reveals with closest minuteness every particular of the murder, then awakes from the sleep to see himself convicted on his own evidence and sentenced to death. Those who knock in the morning at the man's door receive no answer. They burst in the door in time to see the wretched man stagger from his bed, clutching at the imaginary rope around his throat, and to view him die of the fright and agony he has endured. In two respects the play departs from the original, and in both respects for the worse: first, in representing two visions of Mathias instead of one, and, next, in taking away the significance of the dream with which the second act concludes.

AN EARTHQUAKE AND HURRICANE IN ENGLAND.—About five o'clock on Thursday morning slight shocks of earthquake were distinctly felt in several parts of Sheffield. At about that time a heavy thunderstorm, with extremely vivid lightning, and accompanied by violent wind and rain, passed over the town and district. Some persons resident in the south-western portion of the town state that they were sensibly lifted in their beds by the shocks. During a fearful thunderstorm the same morning St. Mary's Church, Higher Crumall, near Manchester, was struck by lightning and fired. The Manchester brigade endeavoured, without success, to arrest the flames, which destroyed the whole of the interior of the building. The storm was one of the heaviest which has visited Manchester for some years. At Hanley there was a tremendous thunderstorm from four to five o'clock, followed by a hurricane and hailstorm. The country was white with snow. Much damage had been done.

SCIENCE AND POLITICS.—The Paris journal, the *XIX. Siècle*, says that "the President of the Republic has received an appeal from England, signed by well-known names in the world of science, such as those of Lord Amberley and Hobart, Sir J. Lubbock, Sir John Rose, Messrs. Darwin, T. Hughes, Professor Fawcett, W. D. Christie, and many others, praying for a commutation of sentence, or rather the pardon, of M. Elisee Reclus, who was recently condemned to transportation by a Council of War at Versailles. The petition is drawn up in very moderate terms, and requests the restoration to the science of the world of a man of such promise for the future as M. Elisee Reclus. Mr. Christie, who was lately the English Minister in Brazil, especially attests the great value of M. Reclus's writings. The petition concludes with a very adroit compliment to M. Thiers. 'Certainly,' it says, 'your reputation is too illustrious, your place in the republic of letters is too eminent, to permit the transportation of M. Elisee Reclus, and thus to cast a stain upon the renowned literature of your great country.'"

CATHOLICS AND ROMAN CATHOLICS.—A singular discussion arose at the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions, on Monday, on reading the reports of the chaplain and Roman Catholic chaplains. Lord Lyttelton said he believed that, at the last sessions the Rev. Mr. Amphlett, an ecclesiastical grounds, took exception to the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, the Roman Catholic chaplain, signing his report as "Catholic Chaplain," and leaving out the word "Roman." On the present occasion he saw that Mr. Vaughan had simply signed his name, but in the report he had called the prisoners under his charge "Catholic prisoners." His Lordship, on purely legal grounds, said he believed there was nothing to justify Mr. Vaughan in signing himself "Catholic chaplain," or calling the prisoners Catholic, which was not according to law. The Rev. Mr. Amphlett objected to the word "Roman" being omitted, and thought there should be no compromise. Sir Henry Lambert said that, after what took place at the last sessions upon this matter, he and the chairman conferred with the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, and it was suggested, as a compromise, that the rev. gentleman should simply sign his name to the report without any designation. Mr. Gaiton said that he thought it hard to call Catholics "Roman" Catholics when they had been deprived of Rome. After some further discussion, the chairman suggested that the difficulty in the future should be got over by the adoption of a form of words that would be inoffensive to both Roman Catholics and Protestants.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY.—At the meeting of the Academy, on Saturday, to fill up the four vacant chairs, there were present twenty-nine members. M. Thiers, M. de Rémusat, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and M. Dufaure, Minister of Justice, were among those who voted; and MM. Victor Hugo, Xavier Marmier, Autran, Jules Janin, and Péro Graty were absent. The first election was for a successor to Montalembert, and the Duc d'Angoulême received 28 votes, one blank vote being recorded. For M. Villermé's chair there were three candidates—M. Littré, who obtained 17 votes; M. Tailhandier, 9; and M. de Viel Castel, 3. There were six candidates for M. Prevost Paradol's chair. M. Camille Ronsset had 12 votes, M. de Viel Castel, 7, M. de Mazade 8, M. de Lomenie 1, M. Tallandier 1, and M. Mary-Lafon, 0. The choice of a successor to Prosper Mérimé was only made after two ballots. At the first, M. de Viel Castel, 2, M. de Mazade 1, and M. Mary-Lafon, 0. At the second ballot, M. de Lomenie received 15 votes, and M. Edmund About 14. Previous to the election a protest in the form of a lengthy pamphlet was distributed among the Academicians by the Bishop of Orleans, who, while professing the utmost respect for the personal character of M. Littré, declared that now, as in 1863, he opposed the admission into the Academy of one who in his writings was the defender of Materialism, Atheism, and Socialism. In consequence of M. Littré's election, M. Monseigneur Dupanloup has resigned his seat in the Academy.

THE WORKING OF THE IRISH LAND ACT.—The *Morning Post* states that the Irish Land Act is said to be worth forty millions sterling to the tenant-farmers of Ireland. In the period commencing in January, 1869, and terminating in September, 1871, being two years and three quarters, the total number of evictions in Ireland was 1053, or less than 400 in the year—a striking result when compared with the numbers of twenty years previously, which exceeded 50,000 annually. The first result of recent legislation was to check the practice of serving notices to quit, and, in fact, it is asserted that now scarcely any evictions take place save for non-payment of rent. During the same period the emigration has diminished in similar ratio, the numbers for these last years having been less than 2000 in the year, compared with the 250,000 annually which left the country twenty years ago. In the cases brought before the Land Sessions under the Act several thousands of pounds have been awarded to tenants as compensation in less than half of the total number brought into court. The remainder of the cases have been settled out of court, no doubt to the satisfaction of tenants, and without the payment of heavy costs. Sums amounting in the aggregate to £97,829 have been granted by way of loan to tenant farmers to enable them to purchase the lands in their own occupation, and the advance of some £28,000 is also under consideration. If this practice should increase to any great extent, as there seems good reason to anticipate will be the case, the result must be the establishment in Ireland of an appreciable number of yeomen or farmer proprietors, a class which, more than any other, will assist in rendering good government secure in the country, and in checking noisy and unthinking agitators. There are no small gains from the course of recent legislation for Ireland, and if so much has been done, it is not too much to hope that the benefits will continue and increase.

THE ADAMITES.—The following is an abstract of a paper read before the Anthropological Institute, on Monday evening, by Mr. C. Staniland-Wake:—"The object of this paper is to show, by reference to evidence extraneous to the Hebrew Scriptures, what peoples are entitled to be classed as Adamites. The name of the primitive race from which the Chaldeans sprang—the *Adad*—proves that they must be thus classed. Akkad would seem to mean 'sons of Ad'; the first syllable of the word being the same as the Gaelic *Mach* or *Ach*. The first Babylonian dynasty of Eberians was Median; and Sir Henry Rawlinson says that the name by which the Medes are first noticed on the Assyrian monuments is *Mad*. This people, the initial letter of whose name may be treated as a prefix, were doubtless the primitive stock from which the *Akkad* were derived. The Medes had also the distinctive title *Mad*; and many of the Aryan peoples appear to have retained a remembrance of the traditional *Ad*. The first part of the Persian work known as 'The Puranas of the Hindus refer to the legendary king, *It or Ait*, who is supposed to be the same as the Greek *Adas*. The primitive Celtic race of Western Europe was called *Gaidal*—i.e., the progeny of Gaid or Aid, who may be identified with *Die*, the mythical ancestor, according to Cæsar, of the Gauls. *Da* (the Greek *Hades*) was also 'Lord of the Dead' among the Celts, and may well, therefore, have been the same as the legendary ancestor *Ad*. Among Hamitic peoples, the original Arab stock trace their first origin to Father *Ad*, who is probably referred to also in the name of the Egyptian deity, *Atum*. The paper also mentions certain facts showing that the name of the legendary ancestor of the Adamites may be traced in the names of the deities of Turanian and American peoples, and also among the Polynesian Islanders, whose word for 'spirit' is *atua*, or *akua*, and whose Great Ancestor is called *Ti atua*. Dividing all the races of mankind, according to the simple classification of Brehms, into brachycephalic and dolichocephalic, the conclusion arrived at by the paper is that *Ad* was the legendary ancestor of the former, the Adamites, therefore, embracing all the actually brachycephalic peoples and those whose brachycephalism has been lost by intermixture with the long-headed stock. The Adamites extend throughout the whole of the northern hemisphere, and are found in various parts of the southern hemisphere, on both the old and the new continents. The names 'Adam' and 'Eve' were, however, merely expressions of the philosophical notion of the ancients that the male and female principles pervade all nature, and originated all things and personifications of the ancestral idea in relation to the human race."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

A very animated debate took place in the Assembly, last Saturday, on the Government bill on the Bank Act. The committee to whom the bill was referred proposed certain restrictions as to the issue of notes. The amendment was opposed by the Government, and M. Thiers made a very energetic speech in defence of the bill; but he ultimately made a slight concession as to the amount of notes to be issued, and the bill was then carried. The Assembly, on the recommendation of the Government, has rejected the proposal of M. Johnston to appoint a committee of fifteen to examine the question of a modification or termination of the Commercial Treaties of 1860. M. Pouyer-Quertier observed that an opportunity for an exhaustive debate would arise when the proposal for the taxation of raw material was discussed.

According to custom on New-Year's Day, M. Thiers, on Monday, received the Diplomatic Body. The President of the Republic, however, made no speech on the occasion, and the ceremony was entirely devoid of the interest which used to attach to the receptions under the Empire. It was noticed that Count Arnim, the Prussian Minister, was not present. The Count explains, in a letter published in the *Journal Officiel*, that his absence arose from the fact that he is not yet officially accredited. He assures M. Thiers that he is expressing the feelings of his Government in wishing him all success in the discharge of his laborious and patriotic functions. Although there was a good deal of stir and bustle in the streets of Paris on New-Year's Day, it is said that those who knew the city in former days noticed a great difference in its aspect. The desolating effects of the war were only too palpably seen in poor dresses, comparatively few purchases, restaurants and cafés no longer crowded to excess, anxious faces among the small dealers, and the absence of novelty in the great houses of business. The day was, however, observed as a general holiday, and only one paper, the *Liberté*, was published in the evening.

A Moderate Republican, M. Vautrain, has been brought forward for Paris in opposition to M. Victor Hugo. M. Vautrain says that in June, 1848, he defended the cause of the Republic by defending the cause of order; and that in December, 1851, he protested against the coup-d'état; and throughout the whole of the Empire withdrew from public life. During the siege of Paris he was Mayor of one of the arrondissements. He was afterwards elected President of the Council-General of the Seine and of the Municipal Council of Paris. These two posts he still holds. M. Vautrain says that, so far from placing the Republic above universal suffrage, he thinks now, as in 1851, that Republican institutions can alone extricate the country from its present difficult position. He energetically denounces the Commune. Marshal McMahon has been asked to stand as a candidate for Paris, in the Conservative interest, but has declined to do so. He adopted a similar course when applied to in July last.

M. Gambetta arrived in Marseilles on Tuesday, and such a large number of persons assembled round his hotel that the police and the troops were called out to preserve order in the street. M. Gambetta, being unwell, did not leave the house.

A Ministerial circular has been issued recommending the Prefects to dissuade the electors from abstention, the evils of which in the present circumstances are strongly insisted upon.

The Commission on the reorganization of the army has decided to propose that the future term of service shall be five years in the active army, four years in the reserve, and six years in the second class of the reserve, which will only be liable to be called out for the actual defence of the country.

It is stated that negotiations have commenced between France and Prussia with the object of extending the period for the payment of the remaining three milliards of the war indemnity.

The Commission appointed by the French Government on the Channel passage has reported in favour of the project of transporting trains in large steam-vessels between Dover and Calais.

A singular question is likely to arise in connection with the withdrawal of the Bishop of Orleans from the French Academy on account of the election of M. Littré. No case has hitherto occurred of the resignation of a member, and no provision has been made for it in the statutes of the association. Most of the Paris papers condemn the Bishop in strong terms for the step he has taken.

The ladies of Mulhouse have sent to M. Thiers 23,945*fr.* as a contribution towards the payment of the war indemnity.

It is reported from Algeria that the Gounis, on the 23rd inst., achieved a brilliant victory over the insurgents in the province of Oran. One hundred rebel horsemen were killed, among them being the chief, Si Salla. The chief Si Kadoun was wounded.

Advices received in France from New Caledonia state that gold is being found in that colony in considerable quantity. Two nuggets, valued at from £600 to £700, had been obtained, after a fortnight's labour, with imperfect appliances. The French miners in California have sent one of their number to examine these new gold-fields, and a mining engineer is about to be dispatched to the spot with the view of ascertaining the extent of the auriferous beds and the best means of working them.

ITALY.

The King, on Monday, received all the high dignitaries of State, and the military and municipal authorities, in the new capital—Rome. His Majesty added to his thanks for the kind congratulations offered to him a hope that concord between the great representative bodies of the people and the State would be always maintained. The King sent an aide-de-camp to the Vatican to congratulate the Pope. The aide-de-camp was courteously received by Cardinal Antonelli, but Pius IX., owing, it is stated, to a slight indisposition, did not appear. A later telegram announces that his Holiness is now restored to health.

A deputation from the municipality of Brindisi has waited upon the Italian Government for the purpose of recommending various measures for the improvement of the port and the town. It seems that a company has been formed which is willing to construct warehouses and docks, and which has already deposited a million lire by way of guarantee with the Bank of Naples. The deputation suggests that the Italian Government should advance to the town, for public improvements, two million lire, to be repaid, without interest, in forty years. All the Ministers are said to have promised to support these projects.

SPAIN.

The New-Year's reception by the King and Queen was a very brilliant affair, deputations from the Senate and Congress, the members of corporations, and all the great officers of state being present to show their respect for the new dynasty. The Diplomatic Body was also present.

PORTUGAL.

The King opened the Cortes in person on Tuesday. In his speech his Majesty said that proposals would be submitted to the Cortes for amending the Constitutional Charter in accordance with the liberal spirit of the times.

GERMANY.

At the reception on New-Year's Day, the Emperor addressed a few cordial and energetic words to the assembled Generals and Ministers, in which he thankfully acknowledged how, during the war, they had contributed to the successful conduct and issue of the great task. His Majesty said that the endeavours of all ought now to be directed towards utilizing the peace which, as he hoped, was now secured for a long time, in order to strengthen the foundations on which the present greatness had been established, and for the development and culture of all intellectual as well as material possessions.

Lieutenant-General von Stosch, the new Minister of Marine, will receive the title of Chief of the Admiralty.

RUSSIA.

Permission has been given to foreign insurance companies to extend their operations to Russia, provided they deposit with the Government 500,000 roubles as security, and publish their balance-sheet.

ROUMANIA.

The Minister of the Interior, M. Lascar Catargi, in last Saturday's sitting of the Chamber, read a despatch from the British Consul-General, in which the British Government urgently recommends the settlement of the railway question. The Chamber has passed the Government bill on the subject.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Governor of New York, in his annual Message to the State Legislature, announces that the State debt amounts to 29½ millions. He recommends legislation for removing all disabilities from aliens relative to the possession of real estate and for imposing additional penalties on bribery and corruption at elections. The Governor recommends a revision of the State Constitution, with the object of giving to the Governor more power and responsibility. He recommends a new charter for New York city, and that recourse should be had to legislation in order to facilitate the exposure and punishment of corrupt officials. He justifies his course regarding the Orange riots. He acknowledges that the loss of life was deplorable; but his duty and intention were to protect at any cost the rights of the citizens, regardless of creed and politics. The prohibition of the Orange procession would have established a dangerous precedent; hence he revoked the police orders.

INDIA.

General Bouchier reports from the Looshai Expedition, Left Column, Dec. 29, that "The Khalew Tylhoos have come in and sued for peace. They have suffered severely in life and property. The terms are being considered. Supplies are meanwhile being pushed on rapidly. There has been slight loss on our side."

PERSIA.

A telegram received from Ispahan says that the famine in Persia is worse than ever, and that there are 3000 deaths from starvation daily.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE VATICAN.

CHRISTMAS DAY in Rome was as fine a day as one may enjoy in May. At twelve o'clock the sun was shining brightly on the waters of the grand fountains in St. Peter's-square, when a long row of carriages moved towards the gate of the Vatican. The Swiss Guards wore their finest uniforms, and the Italian police-officers displayed great activity in regulating the approach and the withdrawal of the state carriages. The members of the Corps Diplomatique accredited to the Holy See, and a great number of faithful Romans, were about to wish a merry Christmas to Pius IX. The ceremony took place with the usual formalities, thus rendering even more absurd the farce of the pretended captivity. The Marquis Cavalletti, declaring himself the legitimate Senator, or Lord Mayor of Rome, gave utterance to the most vehement accusations against the usurpers; and the Holy Father wept over the calamities afflicting the Eternal City. To those who, while having access to the Pope, are nevertheless compelled by their occupations to witness what is going on in Rome at the present moment, the speeches which are every day delivered within the walls of the Vatican must appear truly absurd. Ever since the day when the Italian troops entered the breach of Porta Pia, the Pope has been told that the Eternal City presents the aspect of desolation and ruin. It is utterly impossible for him in his position to know better, and he might live a thousand years in the same belief, and uttering the self-same lamentations. But the courtiers of the Holy Father have now invented a new and more extravagant device to persuade the old man of the truth of their assertions. They are constantly telling him that the Vatican is no longer a safe place, and that measures have been taken at night to patrol the gardens and keep guard against a pretended attack—an attack from what or whom it would be hard to say. Thus the Holy Father has scarcely got into bed than he is roused by cries under his very windows of "Who goes there?" The interior of the Vatican presents, especially at night, the appearance of a feudal castle prepared for a sudden attack.

THE NONCONFORMISTS AND THE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES.—A case of some interest to Nonconformists will shortly be heard at Fenton, in the Potteries. On Dec. 22, at the police court in that town, Mr. Harvey Adams, a manufacturer, was summoned for the non-payment of a rate levied under the Elementary Education Act, amounting to 4*s.* 6*d.* Mr. Adams expressed his determination, on conscientious grounds, not to pay the rate, and he said he was acting in conjunction with many Nonconformists. The case was dismissed on a formal point, but we understand that a fresh summons has been issued. The matter has been taken up by an influential body of Nonconformists, and Mr. Adams, who is a prominent member of the Methodist New Connexion, has expressed his intention of resisting to the last extremity.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—T. Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, the thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum, were voted to Mr. Samuel Philip, boatman in her Majesty's coastguard at Bude, Cornwall, in acknowledgment of his meritorious conduct on the occasion of the Bude life-boat rendering assistance to the distressed yacht *Hattie*, of Cromer. Rewards to the amount of £298 were also granted to the crews of sundry life-boats of the institution for going out on service during the past month, in which period the life-boats had been the means of saving 138 lives, besides rescuing four vessels from destruction. Various other rewards were also granted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on our coasts, and payments to the amount of £1500 were likewise ordered to be made on life-boat establishments. Several contributions were announced as having been sent to the society from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Mark-lane, and other places, and amongst them were £157 13*s.* from the "Customs" Life-Boat Fund, through William Wybrow, Esq., and £25 11*s.* 6*d.* realised from an amateur dramatic entertainment given at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Dec. 18, by members of the Fore-street Educational Society. The late Miss Harriet Baker, of Stutton, had left the institution a legacy of £100. New life-boats were ordered to be sent to Tynemouth, Northumberland; Whitby, Yorkshire; and Pakefield, Suffolk—the first-named boat being appropriated to the Ancient Order of Foresters, and named the "Forester." A report was read from Captain D. Robertson, R.N., the assistant inspector of life-boats to the institution, on his recent visit to the coast. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Thomas Chapman, Esq., and to Sir Edward Perrott, Bart., for their able conduct in the chair at the meetings of the institution during the past year.

BISHOP LONSDALE.—Last Saturday afternoon a very beautiful and costly monument to the memory of the late Bishop Lonsdale was publicly unveiled in Lichfield Cathedral. The monument, which is set in one of the north bays of the cathedral, is the joint production of Mr. Watts, R.A., of London, and Mr. Gilbert Scott, R.A., the former having designed the effigy of the deceased Bishop, and the latter the beautiful canopy with which it is surmounted. The total cost is nearly £2000. The memorial consists of a tomb in alabaster, in the sides of which are circular indentations, decorated with imitation immortelles and shields, and upon the top of which rests the recumbent effigy of the late Bishop Lonsdale, attired in full canonicals and mitre and crozier. Overhead is a beautiful crocketed canopy, decorated richly, but in harmony with the order of architecture prevailing in this part of the building. The buttresses bearing the effigy are very finely carved. The canopy rests upon stone columns at the head and feet of the effigy, and clustered marble columns in the middle. Around the slab is the following inscription:—"John Lonsdale, D.D., Bishop of Lichfield, born Jan. 17, A.D. 1788; deceased Oct. 19, A.D. 1867. Erected by the diocese in memory of his eminent learning, piety, his unwearied labours and paternal care during an episcopate of twenty-four years." The proceedings commenced with a procession from the vestries, led by the choir and followed by the Rev. Mr. Dainty, Prebend; Canon Lonsdale (son of the deceased Bishop), Archdeacon Moore; the Rev. W. Champness, Dean of Lichfield, and Bishop Selwyn. At a given signal the drapery around the monument was lowered, and a murmur of admiration ran through the assembly when the effigy was displayed to view. The choir then sang Handel's beautiful anthem, "The body is buried in peace, but the name liveth for evermore." Among the company present were the Earl of Lichfield, Bishop Abrahams, Bishop Hobhouse, Chancellor Law, and several other clerical dignitaries. At the conclusion of the anthem the assembly spent a considerable time in inspecting and admiring the monument. By all it is considered that Mr. Watts has given a striking portrait of the deceased Bishop.

DR. DOLLINGER'S ADDRESS.

THE *German Correspondent* contains a long report of Dr. Dollinger's address as Rector of the University of Munich, of which a brief notice has already appeared in our columns. The three temporal faculties were numerous represented on the occasion; that of theology was distinguished by its total absence—Professor Friedrich, as is known, holds only an extraordinary professorship. The Ministry was represented by Count Hengenbergh, and the Minister of the Interior, Von Pfeuffer; the dynasty by Prince Arnold, the youngest son of Prince Luitpold, who is at present a student; and the Reichsrath by its first secretary, Baron von Niethammer. Among the many other persons of note who were present, the Prussian Ambassador, Baron von Werther, Chief Burgomaster Dr. Erhardt, Professor Reinkens, and several members of the Bavarian Parliament were to be observed. The discourse of students was, as might have been expected, very great. The speech, which lasted for an hour and three-quarters, evidently made a deep impression on the audience, who accompanied its delivery with frequent marks of approbation. Speaking of the relations between France and Germany, Dr. Dollinger said:—

"Unhappily, Germany cannot yet disarm, but must keep her hand on her sword. The French proclaim that they will henceforth educate their children in hatred of Germany, as former generations were taught to detest England. It appears to be a necessity for the French to have continually some people or other to hate. This hatred Germany does not return; she holds fast the conviction that all Christian nations are members of one grand confederacy, and that every great people has its own share to perform in the moral development of the human race. For this reason we shall see without envy the re-elevation of the hard-stricken French nation, and on our side willingly resume the interchange of our intellectual wealth. . . . The French people will long preserve its old reputation as the channel through which world-stirring ideas and discoveries are propagated. Even the Englishman Macaulay has called France the born interpreter of scientific discoveries. In truth, the capacity of the French for popularising often degenerates into shallowness, and their besetting sin in science is the tendency to inconsiderately build up new systems on an insufficient foundation. And yet Germany and France are nations indispensable to each other. This we may admit the more candidly as we are now in a position to repel the corrupting effects of French genius. Never again will there appear simultaneously fourteen German translations of a wretched romance with a special drift, such as Eugène Sue's 'Wandering Jew.' If we direct our unbiased attention to intellectual life in France at the present moment, we may note a deep depression and thorough discouragement of all superior minds as its distinguishing feature. They have obtained a melancholy insight into the fruitlessness of the struggles towards political and social reform made for a century past in France; words like the 'stone of Sisyphus' and 'Nous baïssons' have been pronounced by prominent men. Twenty years ago Tocqueville complained of the increasing poverty of France in eminent men. The voices that lament the 'irretrievable decay' of the nation are becoming more numerous. But yet the source of vital power in the French people is still unexhausted; a wonderful copiousness of talent and energy, as well as of material resources, is still available. We need not abandon the hope that some day our conciliated neighbours will again raise themselves with the aid of Germany, and by taking her as a model."

Dr. Dollinger spoke at length on the mendacity of French historical literature, especially denouncing Lamartine, Thiers, and Michelet. He said:—"The period which has passed since 1789 has often been called an age of lies. It is true that the power of mendacity in the present age is immense. Whoever doubts this need only turn his eyes to the sick bed where the noble French nation lies stretched in a severe though not hopeless disease. The historians of that nation have inoculated it with a deep untruthfulness." Here is the passage in which the Rector denounced the infallibility proclamation:—

"On July 18, 1870, Rome, the second metropolis of Latinism, declared war against German science and German intellect. Five hundred and forty-seven Roman Bishops proclaimed the infallibility of the Pope. Witnesses of authority have shown that this dogma, the dangerous character of which had never been mistaken, was promulgated only to checkmate the Germans, and to serve, so to speak, as an antidote against inconvenient German investigations. For more than twenty years the Roman hierarchy has banished the old theological handbooks from the seminaries and colleges, and introduced new ones full of misstatements and falsifications, thus endeavouring to gain over the younger clergy to the cause of the ecclesiastical revolution in favour of Papal absolutism. This manoeuvre has, unfortunately, been crowned with success. In Germany alone the introduction of the new class-books only partially succeeded, and therefore the direct declaration of war against German science, which had so long been avoided, is now considered necessary. A society originally formed in Spain proclaimed the principle of the subjection of human will and human intellect to the authority of a person appointed by God to be the head and centre of Christianity. The hostility to all free inquiry which resulted from this doctrine was first directed against natural science, and gained some partial successes, but was in the end defeated at every point. Now, the science of history is attacked. If the attempt were successful, the inevitable consequence would be the bankruptcy of historical investigation, general scepticism, and an utter want of confidence in the trustworthiness of all historical research. Rome is fully determined on this conflict. In the ecclesiastical question now at issue an offer was made to leave its decision to the most eminent scientific authorities. The answer to this proposal was an anathema. Such a reply, too, was perfectly natural; the question was not one of science, but of obedience. For the same reason German bishops have lately laid before the throne of the German Emperor a complaint about the 'unharmonious progress' of German science—that is, of the German Universities. Nothing else could be expected from the discoverers of the idea of obedience in knowledge, who had also applied to the universities of Germany the epithet 'ossa foetentia.' War is therefore declared. Time will show whether history is to be beaten where natural science was victorious."

On the reunion of Christendom Dr. Dollinger said:—

"Above all, German theology is favoured by the new order of things. In the two confessions this science has much to learn and much to forget. Since the division between the Churches, theology on both sides has considered polemics the chief task; and thus divergencies have been made more striking, and the breach has been widened. Henceforth theology must follow an opposite course, and exchange a polemical for an irenic tendency. It must in future become the science of peacemaking. Previous to the establishment of the empire the purest patriots lamented our denominational disunion as the principal difficulty in the way of the unification of Germany. Now the exterior framework of the empire is finished; but its internal construction is not completed, and here theological division will unfortunately still act as a hindrance. In all Europe a desire is felt for the reunion of the separated Churches. Germany, in which their division originated, has also the task of bringing about their reunion, or, if this be impossible, their reconciliation at least."

THE NEWCASTLE CO-OPERATIVE ENGINEERING COMPANY.—About 500 working members of the Co-operative Engine Works Company, established in Newcastle during the strike, held a breakfast, on Tuesday morning, and established a sick and insurance fund. The chairman stated there was work in hand for twelve months. Regular monthly payments had been made by shareholders. The shares were already at a premium, and would be worth half as much again in six months. He remarked that their example was contagious, and he had good authority for saying that an old and well-established firm in Newcastle was thinking about adopting the principle of co-operation. He hoped they might have a week's holiday in the summer, so that they might see beautiful scenery and inhale bracing mountain air. If they went for a week, they would derive so much benefit that it would pay back double interest, and the calls upon the sick fund would be diminished. The suggestion was received with loud cheering.

PRUSSIAN BAYONET EXERCISE AT METZ.

THE Prussian occupation of Metz is thorough and business-like, and the regularity with which the conquerors have taken possession is evinced by their matter-of-fact way of going about their daily duties there. We are able to publish an Engraving taken from a sketch of the bayonet exercise as practised by the Prussian infantry on the ramparts of the citadel. The scene was taken from the Serpentine rampart, and is remarkably suggestive of that completeness for which the German army has lately obtained such vast credit, and by which it doubtless achieved its great successes. Helmets, masks, gloves, padded and quilted aprons, breastplates, and globular-foiled bayonet-points, all are evidences of the attention to detail which distinguishes the Prussian soldier. Of course, the general effect is peculiar, and the stalwart infantrymen in their bayonet practice look like those queer Japanese soldiers of whom we sometimes see a picture; but they learn to use their weapons very adroitly, confidently, and effectually—so the end is answered; and they are not the men to be frightened by appearances.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.—FLIGHT OF IGNACIO DIAZ.

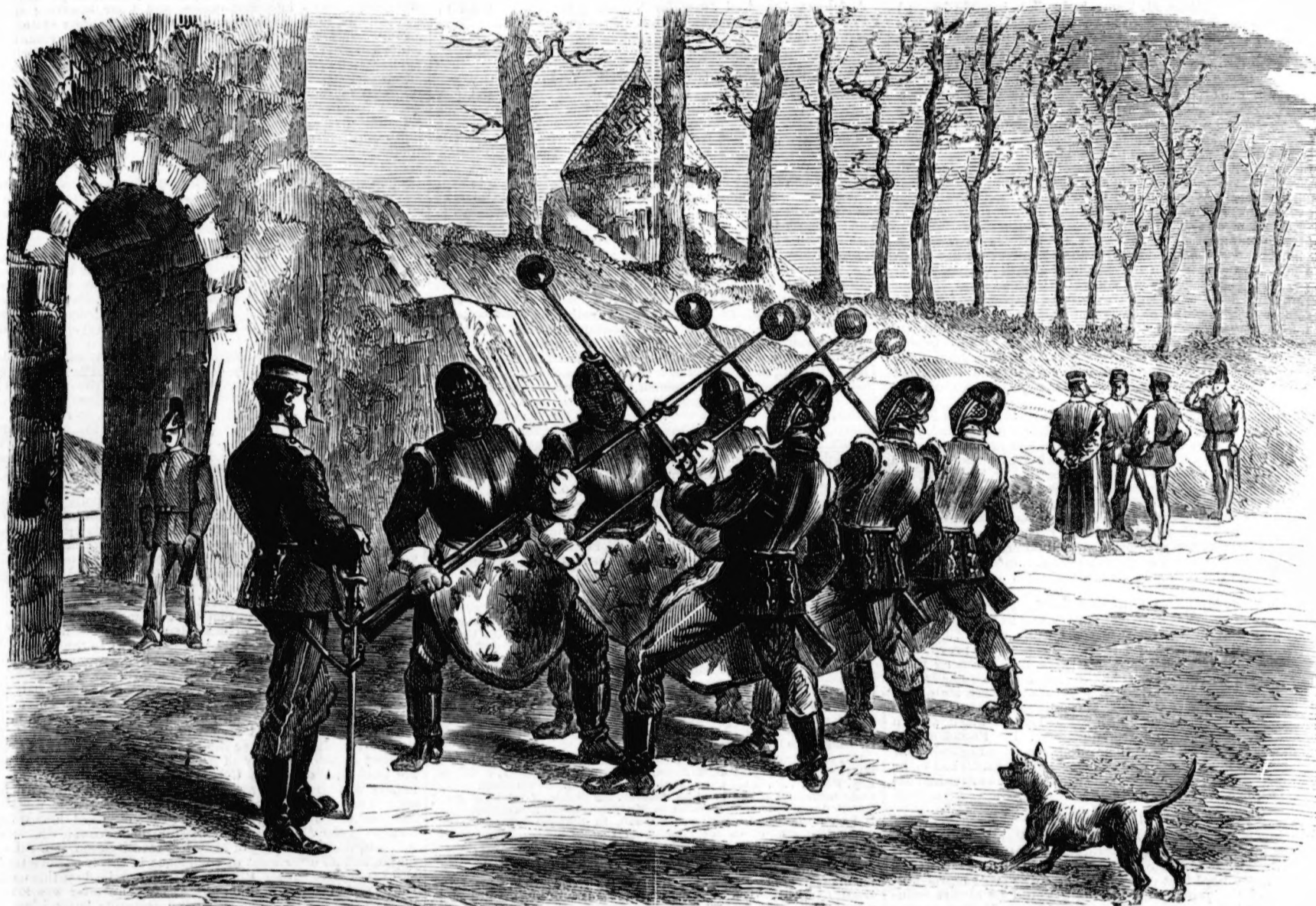
EVENTS in Cuba are still of that terrible kind which accompany insurrections in that unhappy island, where revolutionary attempts are chronic. Our illustration represents the latest phase of that horrible drama in the district of Manzanillo. For several days the insurgents under the celebrated Ignacio Diaz had been skirmishing with Government troops, when, late one evening, the main body of them came upon a detachment of volunteers commanded by Lieutenant Mouruy, an officer who has already

achieved a great reputation for daring courage. Though the volunteers were inferior in numbers to the insurgents, they attacked without hesitation, and, after a fierce struggle, which lasted two hours, the rebels were entirely routed, and took to flight, pursued by their opponents. Mouruy had at the beginning of the action sent for a reinforcement of Chasseurs of Simancas, who were encamped at some distance, and their arrival was momentarily expected. He proposed, therefore, to pursue the enemy along the road on which the reinforcement would be moving, in order to take them between two fires. Night had come on, and the country was lighted by a brilliant moon, when the insurgents, suspecting the intentions of Mouruy, turned off on another route, that they might reach a bohio, or village composed entirely of thatched cottages, where they intended to make a stand against the troops, who would be compelled to pass through the place in order to join the expected contingent of Chasseurs. Ignacio Diaz, a leader prompt and clever in emergency, foresaw that the junction of the two forces would be fatal, and determined to set fire to the village in order to divide the allies by a mass of flames which would delay them long enough for him and his followers to effect their escape in an opposite direction. The idea was a good one, and proved to be successful. The insurgents arrived just in time to fire the thatched huts before the troops came up, and inhabitants and insurgents, mixed in a struggling mass, together with cattle and horses, increased the confusion, amidst which the volunteers were unable to approach, and had to content themselves with sending repeated volleys from their field-guns after the retreating crowd of armed and unarmed people. The rebels suffered considerable loss, but no prisoners were taken. A number of oxen and cattle were, however, left behind, besides arms and ammunition.

BURNING OF THE ARSENAL LIBRARY, VENICE.

STILL another is to be added to the long list of disastrous fires for which the past year has been so lamentably distinguished. It is, perhaps, of less universal importance than the disaster at Warwick Castle, and yet it is immensely suggestive, as showing how necessary are the most constant precautions, even in places where flood rather than fire might be imagined to threaten the inhabitants. Who would imagine a serious conflagration at Venice, where the streets are waterways and nobody can get to their doorsteps but in a boat? And yet it is in that city, founded on the sea, and built, as it were, upon the very waves, that a most destructive fire has taken place.

It was on the night of Dec. 12 that the inhabitants of the Castello quarter were suddenly awakened by shouts from the sentinels at the arsenal; and the appeal for help was promptly responded to, for the Venetians are always ready to aid in saving the monuments of their great city, many of their chief-d'œuvres of art having been already destroyed by the burning of some of their museums. In a few minutes thousands of persons had assembled at the scene of the alarm—the great maritime arsenal, where the flames were already raging, and a high wind threatened to carry them to the neighbouring houses, and so extend the conflagration to a wide area. Sailors, firemen, and a band of helpers from the crowd at once used all their efforts to subdue the fire, and during its continuance several persons were injured. By dint of unremitting efforts it was possible to save the palace from total destruction. The maritime arsenal dates from the fifteenth century; and before the entrance-gate, which was constructed in 1460, stand two lions brought from the port of Athens, in 1687, by F. Morosini; but they are not very remarkable works. In the arsenal itself is a collection of ancient



PRUSSIAN SOLDIERS AT BAYONET EXERCISE ON THE RAMPARTS OF METZ.

Venetian and other arms, weapons, and curiosities. Among them, the armour of Henry IV., the armour of Gatamelata, the monument of Admiral Ems, with a bas-relief by Canova, of 1795; the model of Bucentaur; instruments of torture, among which are those used by F. Carrara, tyrant of Padua, and many others, some of which are damaged, while others have disappeared altogether. It is satisfactory to know, however, that most of the principal works of art have been preserved, and that the fire was at last extinguished without spreading to the buildings in the vicinity.

STREET CLEANSING AND PAVING IN THE CITY.

ON Tuesday, at a meeting of the City Commission of Sewers, at which Mr. J. T. Bedford presided, the subject of the recent disgraceful condition of the City thoroughfares was mooted by Mr. Hora, who moved, pursuant to notice, that it should be referred to the Streets Committee to consider the desirability of having the foot pavements of the City cleansed by the commission, to ascertain the probable cost of the work, and to report thereon to the Court. At the same time Mr. Deputy Symonds, on behalf of the inhabitants of the ward of Lime-street, handed in a resolution passed by them at the recent wardmote, and suggesting that the pavements, as well as the roadways in the City, should be cleansed by the scavengers in the employment of the commission. It may, perhaps, be known that for the last two or three years the Commission has performed the duty of cleansing the carriage ways within the City jurisdiction at a very considerable expense, and with much success, instead of, as formerly, intrusting the work to private contractors; but that during the last few weeks complaints have been very generally made of the dirty state of the streets, and especially of the foot-pavements, the cleansing of which rests under the Police Act with the occupiers of houses. Mr. Hora, after dwelling upon the necessity for a complete change in the state of affairs, urged that the Act by which householders were compelled under a penalty to keep the footway clean was virtually obsolete, and had been superseded by the later statute, under which the commission existed, and which empowered it to

undertake the cleansing and maintenance of the pavements at the expense of the ratepayers. He argued that, if this power was carried out, the streets would be regularly and effectually cleansed, that the increased work would not entail a heavy expenditure, and that the present nuisance would not recur. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion. The chairman explained that as the law at present stood it was the duty of each householder to clean the front of his premises daily, and all the commission had to do was to discharge that duty where the pavements were in front of vacant spaces, hoardings, and churchyards, and upon bridges. Mr. Rigby trusted that by no merely legal difficulty would the commission be prevented from taking steps to insure the cleansing of the thoroughfares. Mr. J. C. Davis contended that the whole question was whether the Court was justified in spending more of the ratepayers' money in this manner when every person was able to do the work for himself. Mr. Knight expressed a strong opinion that the commission had legal power to undertake the work at the public expense; and Mr. J. E. Saunders held that at all risks, but that at the lowest possible outlay, it was desirable that the City should be thoroughly cleansed. The discussion was further continued by Mr. Cockerell, Mr. Edmeston, and other members. The chairman said, for his own part, he had never failed to realise the absurdity of making each man his own scavenger, and he was therefore prepared to support the resolution. It was, however, but due to their officers that it should be stated that never had they experienced greater difficulty in the proper execution of their duties than during the last few weeks. The state of the weather had been most exceptional, and, in addition, the whole of the earth taken from the sites of the new Law Courts, and the new station of the Eastern Counties Railway, had during that period been daily carted through the City, and had produced great trails of mud and dirt. The sweepings also had had to be carried a mile and a half, and the work generally had worn out the men, and caused many of the lads to give up altogether. The resolution of Mr. Hora was unanimously carried. The Streets Committee reported that pursuant to the instructions of the commission, they had awarded two

premiums of of 30 gs. and 20 gs. respectively for the schemes best calculated to effect the removal and disposal of snow from the City streets, under the terms of an advertisement issued in October, 1867, and to which no less than 157 replies had been received. Since then there had been no suitable opportunity for testing any of the schemes; but the committee having endeavoured to select the best, hoped by them, or by some modification of them, to diminish the inconvenience which had hitherto been inseparably connected with a heavy fall of snow. The report was adopted. The court, at the suggestion of the same committee, consented to allow four of the new asphalt companies to lay down specimens of their pavements in Princes-street and King William-street, subject to certain conditions. On that point Mr. Deputy Elliott strongly urged that the experiments should be conducted at the sole expense of the companies.

THE LIFE-BOAT WORK IN 1871.

DURING the past twelve months the life-boats of the National Life-Boat Institution rescued the following shipwrecked crews on the coasts of the British Isles:—Brig Morning Star, of Dublin, 6 lives saved; schooner Oxalis, of Macduff, 4; smack Lark, of Wexford, 2; barque Sea, of Montrose, assisted to save vessel; schooner Handy, of Wexford, 5; brig Flora, of Poole, 6; brigantine Lady Huntley, of Maryport, 4; brigantine Cornhill, of Dungarvon, 3; barque Mexican, of St. John, N.B., rendered assistance; brig Elizabeth and Cicely, of Guernsey, 8; galliot Friendship, of Goole, 3; barque Paquita, of Santander, assisted to save vessel and crew, 16; ship Maria, of Dunedin, 19; brig Sarah, of Sunderland, 6; Austrian brig Sori, assisted to save vessel; brigantine Margaret, of Lancaster, 25; Danish schooner Dania, 5; screw-steamer Alexandra, of London, 23; barque Martha, of Arendal, Norway, 15; barque Richard and Harriet, 7; barque Teviotdale, of North Shields, remained by vessel; brig British Queen, of London, 7; brig Valiant, of Jersey, 7; barque Launceston, of Shields, 14; schooner St. Fergus, of Aberystwith, remained by vessel; barque Arctic Hero, of Goole, 1;



THE CUBAN INSURRECTION: FIRE AND STAMPEDE IN THE ENVIRONS OF MANZANILLO.

schooner *Stranger*, of Newfoundland, 3; brigantine *Queen*, of Youghal, 6; schooner *Mary*, of North Shields, 4; brig *Thessalia*, of Whitby, 9; barge *Friend's Increase*, of London, 4; ship *River Nith*, of Liverpool, rendered assistance; brigantine *Echo*, of Maldon, 6; brig *Windsor*, of Lynn, 6; schooners *Halswell*, of Bridgewater, and *J. W. A.*, of Newquay, 10; lugger *Echo*, of Lowestoft, saved vessel; barque *Jane Kilgour*, of London, 13; schooner *William*, of Liverpool, saved vessel and crew, 3; schooner *Francis*, of Cardigan, saved vessel and crew, 4; schooner *Albion*, of Beaumaris, saved vessel and crew, 3; brigantine *Pomona*, of Dundalk, saved vessel and crew, 5; brigantine *William*, of Londonderry, 5; ketch *Equestrian*, of Port Gordon, saved vessel and crew, 4; brigantine *Isabella Heron*, of Blyth, saved vessel and crew, 6; dredging barge, of Howth, 4; schooner *Lucie Antoinette*, of Nantes, 5; schooner *Ann Mitchell*, of New-

quay, 5; schooner *Eliza*, of Pwllheli, rendered assistance; schooner *Carnsew*, of Hayle, 4; barque *Idun*, of Bergen, Norway, 16; schooner *Cynthia*, of Montrose, 2; a man overtaken by the tide at Fleetwood, 1; brig *St. Thomas's Packet*, of Blyth, assisted to save vessel and crew, 6; brig *Trioner*, of Arendal, Norway, 9; smack *Vale of Conway*, of Beaumaris, 3; seven fishing-cobles of Newbiggin, assisted to save vessels; packet-boat of Lynmouth, 1; schooner *Eleanor*, of Newquay, assisted to save vessel and crew, 4; schooner *Mersey*, of Liverpool, 4; yacht *Hattie*, of Cromer, 3; brig *Hope*, of Portsmouth, remained by vessel; brigantine *Jane*, of Barmouth, 5; brigantine *Roscius*, of Belfast, saved vessel; schooner *Rapid*, of Preston, saved vessel and crew, 2; schooner *Intrepid*, of Liverpool, rendered assistance; schooner *Ann*, of Inverness, 6; barque *Times*, of Liverpool, 17; brigantine *Zoe*, of Dundalk, remained by vessel; two fishing-boats,

belonging respectively to the Isle of Skye and to Hopeman, N.B., 11; schooner *Angora*, of Bangor, assisted to save vessel and crew, 7; brigantine *Cyrus*, of Rye, 9; fishing-cobles *Temperance Star*, *Margaret*, and *6Hs*, assisted vessels; barque *Three Sisters*, of Genoa, 6; schooner *Courier*, of Lerwick, rendered assistance; schooner *Dispatch*, of Whitby, 3; schooner *Major*, of Lynn, 4; brig *Regina*, of London, 7; brig *Orb*, of Whitby, saved vessel and crew, 7; sloop *Trafalgar*, of Cley, saved vessel and crew, 2; four fishing-cobles, of Scarborough, assisted vessels; schooner *Pausilippo*, of Ramsey, 3; steamer *Kingsbridge Packet*, rendered assistance; brigantine *Norval*, of Seaham, assisted to save vessel and crew, 7; schooner *Adelaide*, of Malahide, 5; brig *Jeune Colombe*, of St. Malo, 7; schooner *Jubilee*, of Preston, 4; schooner *Confidence*, of Aberystwith, 2; smack *Demitian Lass*, of the Isle of Skye, 4; barque *Albion*, of Rostock, 10; screw-steamer



BURNING OF THE ARSENAL LIBRARY AT VENICE.

Benjamin Whitworth, of Middlesborough, remained by vessel; brig Osborne, of Hartlepool, 8; screw-steamer Pierre Desirée, of St. Valérie, saved vessel and crew, 4; barque Cassandra, of Liverpool, 21; brigantine Nigretta, of New York, 7; barque Storm, of Cardiff, remained by vessel; brig Typhon, of Tvedestrand, Norway, saved vessel and crew, 8; six fishing-cobles, of Whitby, 18; brig Azela, of Blyth, assisted to save vessel and crew, 8; schooner Samuel and Ann, of Great Yarmouth, 4; dandy Musselburgh, of Lowestoft, 11; barque Albert, of Bremen, 21; barque Robina, of North Shields, 17; barque India, of Shields, 16; schooner Rose, of Ipswich, saved vessel and crew, 4; schooner R.B., of Bayonne, 7; smack and crew saved by Swansea life-boat, 3; Greek brig Calamidas, 11; brig Champion, of Shoreham, saved vessel and crew, 8; brig Wanderer, of Maryport, 10.

This long list makes a total of 658 lives rescued by the life-boats of the institution from the above-named disasters, in addition to 31 vessels saved from destruction. During the same period the Life-Boat Institution granted rewards for saving 230 lives by fishing and other boats, making a grand total of 888 lives saved last year mainly through its instrumentality. Altogether the institution has contributed, from its formation, to the saving of 20,752 shipwrecked persons, for which services 915 gold and silver medals and £36,673 in money have been given as rewards. When we remember that nearly every life saved by life-boats has been rescued under perilous circumstances, the crews often incurring much risk and exposure throughout stormy days and nights, it is gratifying to know that not a single life has been lost from the life-boats of the institution during the past three years, in which period they have been manned on all occasions, including quarterly exercise, by upwards of 30,000 persons. It is also a remarkable fact that during the past twenty years the institution has not lost, from all causes, more than twenty-two persons from its own life-boats.

We might make an interesting narrative of nearly every one of these brief accounts of noble rescue; but our purpose, as an illustration of the character of these services, will be answered by an allusion to the services of the Ramsgate and Broadstairs life-boats to the barque Idun, of Bergen, which was going to pieces on the Goodwin Sands on March 28 last. After reaching the wreck and taking from her fourteen men, together with the son and daughter of the captain, the boats themselves grounded on the sands, and the boiling surf broke over them. They had to drift to leeward for three hours in order to save themselves; but at last they got the aid of the harbour tug, by which they were taken in tow and saved. Such deeds are quite as gallant as the most brilliant exploits of warfare, and the time will assuredly come when they and those who have promoted their accomplishment will occupy an incomparably higher place in the estimation of mankind. We will only add that contributions are received for the Life-Boat Institution by all the London and county bankers, and by its secretary, Richard Lewis, Esq., at 14, John-street, Adelphi, London.

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THE ACTION OF THE SCHOOL BOARDS.

WITH the new year the London School Board commences a course of activity utterly unknown hitherto in this country, not only as to its details, but as to its character. At all events, it is of a kind that has been unknown for a great many centuries. It not only involves principles which lie at the very root of political philosophy; it also involves difficulties of an order which the unpleasant word *inquisitorial* sufficiently suggests. What with the manner in which the income tax is assessed under Schedule D (we say nothing of the tax itself); what with the Census returns, supposing them truthfully made and the penalties not defied; what with the Jury Act; and, above all, the extraordinary powers possessed by the school boards for obtaining such information as they please—it is quite clear that the old saying, "An Englishman's house is his castle," is no longer true. It must be understood that we are here passing no judgment, but simply reviewing the situation; and, we believe, very few people have really weighed it and its issues, or realised the enormous changes of social regimen that it implies. To all this must be added the much greater stringency with which all police regulations that are supposed to promote morality are now beginning to be worked, and the immensely increased activity of clerical and other bodies in the work of supervising private conduct. Lastly, we must remember that the Government have absolute possession of the postal and telegraphic systems, and that in all departments, from the Revenue to the censorship of the drama, there has long existed a plain tendency for high-handedness on the part of administrators.

The by-laws of the London School Board for the purpose of enforcing attendance at school form the most astounding document ever seen in England since the Plantagenets. We do not say that there is a single one of them which could be spared, if the Act is to be enforced; we only call attention to them and point out that it will be necessary to work them with the greatest tenderness. There will not be any difficulty about sweeping into the schools thousands of poor neglected chits who do not know their right hand from their left, and are cruelly neglected by selfish, or worse than selfish, parents. True, hard-working people who are already over-taxed will have to pay for much of this; and unless more than bare secular instruction is by some means bestowed, it may turn out that the honest man, besides educating his own children, has just paid to give another man's the precise kind of knowledge which has enabled him to be a forger like Redpath, instead of a burglar like Bill Sikes. But there is not likely to be any practical dispute, even among the opponents of State education, about forcing gutter children to learn something. It

is higher up that the difficulties may arise. Roman Catholics, Secularists, and Jews might positively refuse to send their children to schools in which the Protestant Bible was read at all; and Dissenters—of whom a large number still adhere to the opinion that State interference in education is wrong—might in many ways embarrass the working of the Act. Tradesmen in the New-cut who never opened shop on Sundays before have now combined with others who have always done so to defy the vestry when it puts in force an obnoxious law; and there are ugly and ominous murmurs among certain sections of Nonconformists. Of course, no man who has made up his mind to defy the law, or help others to defy it, will announce his intention beforehand; and it very often happens that privately-uttered threats of that kind go out in smoke. But administrators of a new law like the one before us cannot proceed too carefully at first.

On one point—namely, what constitutes "efficient instruction," it is not easy to discern a clear path ahead. The 73rd section of the Act enumerates among the legal "excuses" for a child's not attending school that it is "under efficient instruction" already. And the by-laws of the London School Board take enormous power in this particular. The force of these powers, so to speak, would be distributed over a series of executive bodies and individuals, ascending from local officers to the Committee of Council. But does that make matters simpler? The reader must bear in mind that it is yet under dispute whether the intervention of the State for educational purposes can ever be more than a *pis-aller* and a dangerous expedient. One of the first of German thinkers (Wilhelm von Humboldt), one of the first of French thinkers (Dunoyer)—whose views upon the subject Mr. Mill himself thinks it worth while to discuss—and the admitted chief of living English philosophers (Mr. Herbert Spencer), have maintained that opinion. And one of the reasons for it is this:—There is not a single subject on which so many fresh experiments are constantly being made as education, nor one in which it is so desirable that fresh experiments should be made. But this, of course, implies innovation, and the withdrawal of a certain number of children from all customary methods of culture. Take, for instance, the system of teaching children to read without teaching them at first the alphabet or spelling. This has been carried out with incredible success in every language of Europe. But this, like many other educational experiments, may imply a condition of the child's mind and culture at six or seven years old which would strike terror into the heart of any schoolmaster or "inspector" in the kingdom. The new teacher would say, "Wait till these boys are ten, and they will beat yours;" but who is to decide in the meantime whether they are under "efficient instruction" or not? Mr. Mill is a strong advocate of State interference in the matter of education, though he holds that the rights of the State are confined to the insisting that children shall know certain things. Yet, in his beautiful inaugural address at St. Andrew's, he "propounded" a doctrine of school-teaching which would depose nearly every schoolmaster in the empire for utter incompetency. Now, the law, as it stands, applies to *all children*; and it is perfectly conceivable, however unlikely, that an educational reformer who was carrying on the most beneficent experiments might have his career cut short by a legal decision that he was not giving his pupils "efficient instruction." And poor children are the very ones among whom fresh experiments would most likely be first tried.

These are only very bare suggestions—a hundred more might be made and much more fully illustrated. And let not the reader pooh-pooh such difficulties, and say that in practice they never can exist. That is just what was said of "the religious difficulty" by almost all the periodicals in England, except a few Nonconformist journals, the *Westminster Review*, and the *Illustrated Times*. But the Government will find it quite practical enough in the coming Session. And we shall be very much surprised if, in a country like this, the working of the Act, under clause 73, does not run against unexpected hindrances, which will require a more conciliatory spirit than has yet been shown by either the School Boards or the Education Department. The only other remark we will now make is that great care must be taken in appointing the local subordinates and in giving them their instructions for dealing with cases that are not at once classifiable. These local subordinates should not be—what, we fear, they too often will be—clerical nominees; and great care must be taken to select independent, well-behaved persons, who are not likely to exceed the spirit of their instructions.

AN EXHIBITION of the arts and industries of Spain, Portugal, and the colonies of these countries will be opened in Oporto on Aug. 1 next.

THE REVENUE RETURNS for the year and for the quarter ended Dec. 31 show that the total revenue for the year is £72,209,111—a net increase over last year of £910,156. In the nine months ended on Dec. 31, however, there is a net income of £22,263,891. In the quarter just ended there is an increase of £924,915, which is distributed over all the items of revenue, except Post Office, in which there is a decrease of £42,000.

THE NATIONAL SYMPATHY FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES.—LETTER FROM THE QUEEN.—The Secretary of State for the Home Department has received Her Majesty the Queen's commands to make public the following letter:—" Windsor Castle, Dec. 26.—The Queen is very anxious to express her deep sense of the touching sympathy of the whole nation on the occasion of the alarming illness of her dear son, the Prince of Wales. The universal feeling shown by her people during those painful, terrible days, and the sympathy evinced by them with herself and her beloved daughter, the Princess of Wales, as well as the general joy at the improvement in the Prince of Wales's state, have made a deep and lasting impression on her heart which can never be effaced. It was, indeed, nothing new to her, for the Queen had met with the same sympathy when, just ten years ago, a similar illness removed from her side the mainstay of her life, the best, wisest, and kindest of husbands. The Queen wishes to express at the same time, and on the part of the Princess of Wales, her feelings of heartfelt gratitude; for she has been as deeply touched as the Queen by the great and universal manifestation of loyalty and sympathy. The Queen cannot conclude without expressing her hope that her faithful subjects will continue their prayers to God for the complete recovery of her dear son to health and strength."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

AS THE PRINCE OF WALES IS GOING ON FAVOURABLY, THE QUEEN, on Tuesday, returned to Windsor from Sandringham. At the various county quarter sessions now being held, many addresses of congratulation to her Majesty and to the Princess of Wales have been voted. Similar manifestations of satisfaction at the progress which the Heir Apparent is now making have been witnessed at recent meetings of other public bodies.

THE QUEEN'S NEW YEAR'S GIFTS TO THE POOR OF WINDSOR were distributed, on Monday, without any ceremony, owing to the absence of her Majesty at Sandringham. Her Majesty has sent a liberal supply of game for the use of the patients in St. Thomas's Hospital, the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, and other similar institutions.

PRINCESS LOUISE AND THE MARQUIS OF LORNE have left England for the Continent.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH has lent, for public exhibition, specimens of the collections of objects of science and art which he made in his cruise round the world, in H.M.S. Galatea, in the years 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1871. They will be illustrated by paintings of the scenes of places touched at, by Mr. Oswald Brierly and Mr. Nicholas Cheverton. It is expected that they will be arranged for public inspection in the north court of the South Kensington Museum towards the end of January.

THE KING OF ITALY, on New-Year's Day, sent a telegram to the Emperor Napoleon, at Chislehurst, expressing his friendly feelings and kind wishes for the happiness of his Majesty and his family.

MR. CHILDERS has accepted the post lately filled by the Hon. G. F. Vernon, C.B., as agent-general in this country for the colony of Victoria. The office has been given to Mr. Childers by the Melbourne Government.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, on Wednesday, opened new schools for St. Peter's, London Docks, which is under the pastoral care of the Rev. C. F. Lowder. There is accommodation for about 600 children.

THE FIRST COMMISSIONER OF WORKS has received from the Berlin Government an invitation to British architects to compete for new houses of Parliament in that city. Architects of all other nations are also invited.

THE MARRIAGE OF LORD GARLES, M.P., and Lady Mary Cecil is appointed to take place on the 18th inst.

THE JAPANESE MIKADO, in pursuance of his policy to popularise his government, lately appeared in the streets of Jeddo, driven in an English carriage, four-in-hand, with only four running footmen. Subsequently he walked out, unattended, and has issued an imperial order forbidding the performance of obsequies and ceremonies formerly prescribed by law on those who met the Mikado face to face or were passed by his official emblems.

A WOMAN NAMED PATTERSON, the wife of a scavenger living at Capar-Fife, murdered her daughter, seven years of age, on Wednesday morning. The mother had been drinking for several days, and it is assumed that she killed her child on the latter refusing to fetch her some whisky. The woman has been placed under arrest.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND has undertaken to sum up, in a series of critical articles in the *Academy*, the whole of the circumstantial evidence respecting the authorship of the "Letters of Junius," including that of handwriting, as lately brought forward by the Hon. E. Twissleton and Mr. Chabot. The first article of the series will be published on Jan. 12.

MR. HARRY KING, the Queen's huntsman, died at Windsor, last Saturday, after a few days' illness.

MR. C. R. BARRY, the Attorney-General for Ireland, is to succeed the late Mr. Justice George in the Court of Queen's Bench. Mr. Dowse being promoted to the Attorney-Generalship. It is stated that the new Solicitor-General will probably be either Serjeant Armstrong or Mr. Pilles, Q.C.

THE BRITISH LEGATION AT MUNICH has been abolished. Mr. R. B. D. Morice, Chargé d'Affaires at Stuttgart, will be appointed Chargé d'Affaires at Munich; and Mr. G. G. Petre, Secretary of Embassy at Berlin, will succeed Mr. Morice at Stuttgart.

MAZZINI is reported to have nearly recovered from his recent illness.

THE LEEDS TOWN COUNCIL has resolved to oppose the application to Parliament for a tramway to the People's Park at Roundhay, alleging that tramways cannot be satisfactorily worked on macadamised roads.

THE HAYTON, PRESCOT, AND ST. HELEN BRANCH of the London and North-Western Railway was opened on Monday. The branch forms the last link of a new direct route from Liverpool to Scotland.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM was visited during Christmas week by 45,592 persons, 19,650 of whom were present on Boxing Day. The average of the corresponding week in former years was 28,182.

SOME OF THE OFFICIALS of the North British Railway have been on their trial, at the Glasgow Circuit Court, charged with homicide and neglect of duty in connection with the late accident near Maryhill. The station-master was sent to prison for four months for neglect of duty.

THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY AUTHORITIES have at length discovered the advantage of cultivating third-class passenger traffic. They began on Monday the issue of third-class return tickets available by all trains having third-class carriages attached.

THE BOILER of a ROAD-STEAMER or traction-engine exploded, in Paisley-road, Glasgow, last Saturday, whereby three persons were instantly killed, six others have since died, and about thirty have sustained more or less serious injuries.

THE PHYSICIANS of the BERLIN CHARITY HOSPITAL have published a report on a new medicament styled "Xyloz," which has been applied with excellent and uniform success as a remedy against smallpox, and is stated in no single instance to have failed.

THE CHESHIRE MAGISTRATES are taking steps to appoint a county analyst. One argument used in support of the appointment is, that it would diminish drunkenness by preventing the mixture of drink-provoking ingredients with liquor.

SAMUEL LEVANNE, described by the police as an old skeleton-key thief, and against whom several convictions were recorded, was on Monday sentenced by the Assistant Judge of the Middlesex Sessions to ten years' penal servitude.

A NEW CONSERVATIVE PAPER, called the *Belfast Times*, made its appearance on Monday. Connected with it there is to be a weekly paper called the *Weekly Times*, the first number of which is to appear on Saturday. It is to contain the opening chapter of a story from the pen of Mr. W. Johnston, M.P.

WHILE THE PETTY SESSIONS were, on Wednesday, being held in the village of Killyclogher, in Letrin, the floor of the courthouse gave way, and about 300 persons fell to the ground floor, a depth of 18 ft. It is feared that some of the injuries will prove fatal. The magistrates and attorneys escaped unhurt.

A MOVEMENT IS ON FOOT, promoted chiefly by working men at the East-End, but not confined to either locality or class, for a memorial in honour of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. It is proposed that the memorial should take the form of a work of art—either a sculptured bust or figure.

THE NECESSITY FOR SANITARY REFORM in one part of London was shown at the Westminster Police-Court, on Wednesday, when a prosecution was instituted by the Medical Officer of Health for St. George's, Hanover-square. The defendant was the owner of Ebony House, Ebony-square, Finsbury, in which fifty-three persons lived, the drains being in "a horrible condition," and the water supply defective. The magistrate made an order likely to deal effectually with such a nuisance.

MR. NELSON LEE died somewhat suddenly on Tuesday morning, at his residence, Shrubland-road, Dalston. The deceased was for many years lessee and manager of the City of London Theatre, and at a time when that house was in the zenith of its popularity. Up to within the last three or four years Mr. Lee had had the management of the theatrical, pantomimic, and other holiday revels at the Crystal Palace.

ALDERMAN CAMPBELL, Lord Mayor of Dublin for 1871, went out of office on Monday without having received the usual vote of thanks, in consequence of having given a banquet at the close of his year of office to which he did not invite the members of the Town Council, as is customary. Mr. Campbell accepted the Majority in the middle of the year, on the death of Alderman Bullin, and, it is said, conceived himself badly treated in not being re-elected for 1872.

DR. JOHN STAINER, M.A., organist of Magdalen College and to the University of Oxford, has accepted the post of organist to St. Paul's Cathedral, vacant upon the retirement of Mr. John Goss. Dr. Stainer is well known as one of the most accomplished organists in England. His compositions are held in high estimation, and, with his "Theory of Harmony," recently published, place him high amongst the most thoughtful and liberal-minded of modern musicians.

A SUBSCRIPTION opened by the *Paris Figaro* for the relief of the widows and children of gendarmes and policemen killed during the reign of the Commune has reached the sum of 241,000 fr. in three weeks. This is regarded as a Conservative demonstration.

THE DUBLIN SCAVENGERS STRUCK LAST SATURDAY for an advance of 6s. in their wages. They have at present 10s. 8d. a week. The Corporation offered them 12s., but they refused. The Corporation decided on advertising and applying at the workhouses for labourers at 12s. a week, to replace those on strike. The latter assembled round the Corporation Hall on Saturday, and refused to leave until the Corporation had arrived at some decision. The services of the police were required to keep them in order.

THE LOUNGER.

A MORNING PAPER not long ago told us that there are certain "burning questions" which must be discussed and settled next Session. This phrase, "burning questions," struck me, and I made a note of it. It is a good phrase, and means that there is danger in these questions, and that unless by judicious appliances the fire in them can be damped down, it will spread, and, it may be, damage the Government, or even destroy it. Well, what are these questions? Are they really burning questions, likely to be destructive—or at least dangerous—to her Majesty's Government? I forget whether the morning paper named these ardent questions. But, no matter; it is not difficult to surmise them. First, there is Irish Home Rule; that seems in Ireland to burn very fiercely, and, to a large number of Irishmen, to threaten danger. But is there really any danger in it? A very excellent friend of mine, a genuine Irishman and a thorough Radical, tells me that there is no danger at all; and, further, that Mr. Isaac Butt and his fellow agitators over in Ireland, who have been working the bellows so assiduously of late, do not themselves mean mischief. "Depend upon it," said my friend, "it is mere stage fire; not intended to damage anything, but only to make a show." And I confidently believe that this is true. Old King George III. asked Wilkes about his friend Sergeant Glyn. "Sire," Wilkes replied, "he is no friend of mine. He was a Wilkite, which I never was." Similarly, Butt, I suspect, is not a Buttite. Then what makes him, you may ask, neglect a lucrative practice, and rush into an agitation which can bring him no profit, for, notoriously, he is not rich? "Vanity," my friend replied; "that inordinate cormorant, Vanity, as old John of Gaunt called it." But, however this may be, this question, which in Ireland burns or seems to burn so fervidly, will not burn in the House of Commons. Like green wood in a closed chimney, it may splutter, and hiss, and smoke, but the most arduous bellows-blowing will not make it burn. On many such so-called burning questions the House of Commons acts like an exhausted receiver; and so we may pass by this Irish Home Rule matter with the fullest confidence that there is no danger in it.

The Irish Education question is of quite another nature. That is really a burning question, and may be, and some say will be, dangerous. But why should it? The Liberal party is surely sound upon this question. Very few Liberals are disposed to grant the arrogant demands of the Irish Ultramontanists; nor would these demands meet, one would think, with favour on the Conservative side of the House. As far as I can learn, the majority, both of Liberals and Conservatives, are dead against concession. Whence, then, the danger? Well, perhaps there is no real danger; but, if there be no danger, there certainly is alarm, and its cause is not far to seek. It has arisen from a suspicion that the Government is, upon this question, not sound, and not without reason has this suspicion got possession of men's minds. True, Gladstone has not made any avowal that he means to succumb to the Irish Bishops; but, when questioned, his answers were not prompt and decided. There was not in them the ring of true metal. The trumpet sent forth an uncertain sound. Then there came that speech at Bristol, made by Mr. Chichester Fortescue—surely one of the most imprudent speeches ever delivered by a Minister of the Crown. That, though, could not be called an uncertain sound. Mr. Fortescue openly declared his opinion that something would have to be done in the matter of Irish education to satisfy the religious scruples of the Roman Catholics; and, as Mr. Fortescue is now in the Cabinet, men naturally leapt to the conclusion that he was foreshadowing the policy of the Government, and very serious alarm was the consequence, and much excitement in the north of Ireland. Well, then, although the Government do not intend to meddle with Irish education this year, we shall certainly have some very hot discussions upon it, unless Gladstone shall promptly declare that he has no intention to propose any concessions to the Roman Catholic hierarchy. His declaration, though, must be direct and unhesitating. If he should falter in the least, and so lead the House to suspect that he palters with it in a double sense, we shall, I promise you, have some warm talk.

English Education will also have to be discussed, and will be ardently—i.e., hotly—discussed. This is indeed, and truly, a burning question with the Dissenters. Let me tell my readers succinctly what the grievance is. The Nonconformists have, with Mr. Miall as their leader, been for years agitating for the separation of Church and State; for cutting what John Bright once called that adulterous connection. But the cause did not make much way. You see it was, to the general public, a rather monstrous proposal. "Abolish a State Church! Why, such a thing was never done! It is unprecedented, and of course cannot be done." Thus reasoned, with a touch of scorn, the Church party, and thus thought the general public; and, indeed, many of the Dissenters, though they, in the abstract, were anti-State-Church men, thought the idea was Utopian, and, as Gladstone then said, quite out of the range of practical politics. But suddenly Gladstone proposed to abolish a State Church, and, what is more, did abolish a State Church. One may imagine how this elated the anti-State-Church men. "The thing is not, then, Utopian; not out of the range of practical politics. Here is a precedent; and now," so argued the Nonconformists and, indeed, not a few Churchmen, "the abolition of the English State Church is only a question of time." But in 1870 these hopes were rather rudely dashed; for in that year the Prime Minister, so far from weakening the link between the State and the English Church, by assenting to Forster's proposal to grant a large additional sum to Church schools, strengthened it—made a new church rate, in fact. So say the Dissenters, and this is their grievance; and a heavy grievance it is—as capital a grievance as any aspiring young member, ambitious for fame, could possibly wish for; and my readers may be sure that it will be hotly debated. Some think that it will imperil the Government; but I have no apprehension of that sort. Yes, I know that some of the Nonconformists threaten that, if the Government will not redress this grievance, the Nonconformists will, in a body, secede from the Liberal party and overthrow the Government. But I do not believe they will do that. That would be acting like a petulant, pouting child, who, because he cannot have all he wants, won't have anything. But they will not do it. I do not believe they could do it. If a vote of want of confidence were to be proposed by a Tory next Session, it is my belief that the Nonconformists would, at the sound of the trumpet, almost to a man, close their ranks and vote with their party. "Better half a loaf than no bread;" and if the Tories were to come in, the Dissenters, on ecclesiastical questions, would not get a crumb.

There is only one more question which threatens to be a "burning" question—at least, only one more that I can notice—and that is the appointment of Sir Robert Collier to the Judicial Committee of Privy Council. It seems to be quite certain that somebody will move a vote censuring the appointment; and the knowing ones say that if such a vote be proposed it will be carried. And I have no doubt that, if every member in the House were to back his opinion on the subject by his vote, the censure would be carried. But will every member do this? I doubt it. Probably some amendment will be proposed offering Liberal members an opportunity to avoid censuring without expressing approval. But, if the vote of censure should be carried, what will happen? Well, I am told that the Lord Chancellor, who made the appointment, would resign.

Of course there will be, besides the above, many other questions of very great importance—the Ballot, &c. I need not enumerate them. Amongst the side questions—that is, questions introduced by private members—I dare say the Land question will turn up, a question which, though not ardent at present, will some day become a burning question. And, apropos to this, I may, without intruding upon the province of your reviewers, bring before the notice of your readers a book which I have just received—to wit, the second series of "The Cobden Club Essays," in which there are two of the best essays on the Land question that I have ever read. The first is "The Law and Custom of

Primogeniture," by the Hon. C. Broderick. If any of my readers want to know what our law on land is, and what the consequences are, and what the laws ought to be, let them read carefully once and again this singularly lucid, exhaustive essay. Mr. Broderick is the brother of Lord Middleton, and I believe is a barrister. In 1868 he stood for Woodstock, and, all the influence of the Duke of Marlborough notwithstanding, he polled 481 votes against the Conservative's 502. The other essay, "On the Present Aspect of the Land Question," is by Mr. Fowler, M.P. for Cambridge. This, though I have not read it through, I can discern is excellent. I shall have to return to this volume again, for I can see that it is a mine of wealth. The *Times* has more than once sneered at the Cobden Club. Well, let it sneer. Wisdom is justified by her children.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

The December number of Mr. Ruskin's *Fors Clavigera* makes clear to the general reader what others had gathered from various intimations in the writings of that gentleman. When Mr. Belloc goes over to the Roman Catholic communion the fact is chronicled; and just in the same way I chronicle the fact that Mr. Ruskin writes of the story of the signs preceding the Nativity in such terms as these:—"Are you, indeed, sure" . . . of the "real happening of the strange things you have been told—that the heavens opened near Him," &c.?" "You are sure of that, you say? I am glad; and wish it were so with me; but I have been so puzzled lately by many matters that once seemed clear to me that I seldom now feel sure of anything. Still seldom, however, do I feel sure of the contrary of anything. That people say they saw it may not prove that it was visible; and this is a story which I more envy the people who believe, on the weakest grounds, than who deny on the strongest. The people whom I envy not at all are those who imagine they believe it and do not. This story of the Nativity relates either a fact full of power or a dream full of meaning. It is at the least not a cunningly-devised fable, but the record of an impression made by some strange spiritual cause on the minds of the human race at the most critical period of their existence—an impression which has produced in past ages the greatest effect on mankind ever yet achieved by an intellectual conception, and which is yet to guide, by the determination of its truth or falsehood, the absolute destiny of ages to come." To this I will add nothing, except that Mr. Ruskin definitely announces that the tenth of his property (£7000) is now legally made over to certain trustees for the purposes of the St. George's Fund. Those who wish to speculate further upon what Mr. Ruskin thinks of Christianity, or rather of the Bible, may turn to what he has to say in "Time and Tide."

The Duke of Argyll is an orthodox believer, as plainly appears from his "Reign of Law;" but the Duke of Somerset has just published a book, entitled "Christian Theology and Modern Scepticism," from which we gather that he is a pure Theist, and regards the Christian narratives as withdrawn from the sphere of legitimate history. His Grace of Somerset has neither the culture nor the speculative capacity of his Grace of Argyll, and his manner is much more strongly assertive.

The new number of the *Cornhill*, as readers will have gathered from our advertisement columns, has many attractive features; and the "Story of the Plebeians" will have numerous readers.

In *Macmillan* the new story (in addition to Mr. Black's), entitled "Christina North," opens, I own assuredly, in a very pleasing manner.

St. Paul's begins a new series with two stories—one, entitled "Septimus," a posthumous work of Hawthorne's; and another, by Jean Ingelow. The paper on Dress and collateral subjects (I forget the title, unless it is "The Art of Beauty") ought alone to give this magazine a very large circulation.

Good Words for the Young has also taken a fresh start, and is, apparently, to be much more "objective" than it used to be. The prettiest things in this number are Mr. Arthur Hughes's illustrations to "Innocent's Island."

To refer again for a moment to the poem of the "Nut-Brown Maid," of which something was said last week, I am anxious to make it abundantly clear that no verdict was intended to be passed by me upon the poetic merits of the piece; its beauty as a *tour-de-force* in versification has before now been acknowledged in this department of the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES*. The *morale* of the hypothesis of the story—namely, that a man, avowing himself an outlaw, tests a woman's love in the way described (it makes no difference that he was an "earl's son in disguise")—was the thing in question; or, rather, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's estimate of that hypothesis. Some of my readers may not be aware that the story of Griselda was read in a fresh light by a German dramatist, Frederick Halm, who makes the trodden worm turn at last. Instead of returning to her husband when she learns the tricks that have been played upon her, she quits him, with a spirited rebuke of his heartless vanity in putting her to such tests.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

It will be useful, perhaps, to jot down the points most worthy of notice in the various Christmas entertainments, which show a considerable advance in the art of stage decoration, and which, for the most part, have preferred a lavish display of wealth to the cultivation of fun and improvement on the tricks usually forming the foundation of a pantomime. At no theatre is the transformation scene specially remarkable, such pictures being, for the most part, distinguished by their want of originality. But in the ballet scenes the various managers have introduced some marvellous effects, distancing, in the art of colour and grouping, anything that has before been seen on the stage. At COVENT GARDEN, for instance, there is a fanciful representation of a military camp, which for perfect beauty has never been excelled. Nearly three hundred picked ballet-girls are here introduced, superbly dressed, and clad in the most brilliant armour. A finer spectacle than this has never been seen on any stage. The stage during the evolutions is one mass of exquisitely-harmonised colour, and the *tout ensemble* is really so beautiful that for this, if for nothing else, a visit to the Covent-Garden pantomime is imperatively necessary. The pantomime is written by Mr. H. J. Byron, an old hand; and he tells the story of "Blue Beard" so simply and intelligibly as to be most acceptable to children. The incidents of the familiar legend are accurately preserved, and the entertainment is as little dull as is possible on this gigantic stage. Mr. Macdormott, a once favourite actor at the Grecian, personates the notorious polygamist with a very fair notion of fun. Miss Jessie Anstiss and Miss Rose Massey have rare powers of fascination, and Mr. Delevanti very humorously acts a monkey, who, to the huge delight of the children, climbs into the private boxes and scrambles about the stalls. The best effect in the Covent Garden harlequinade is a shadow scene, in which the clown does some of his best tricks behind a magic-lantern sheet. This is really funny and original; but the farmyard scene causes much amusement, mainly from the fact that real cocks and hens, pigs, horses, and donkeys are introduced. The transformation scene is comparatively poor and commonplace; but, if I mistake not, the camp scene will secure for "Blue Beard" a popularity unequalled by any Covent Garden pantomime. The costumes used in this scene have already been sold to an enterprising manager in St. Petersburg.

At DRURY LANE will be found a thoroughly admirable pantomime for children, the fun not being entirely sacrificed for scenic display. The adventures of Tom Thumb, practically illustrated on the stage, even to his being swallowed by a cow, delight the little ones immensely. The text is in Mr. E. L. Blanchard's best style, who writes and composes better every year; and here will be found the celebrated Vokes family, quite unrivalled in the rare art of pantomime. A scene in imitation of Dresden china is beautifully coloured by Mr. Beverly, and does credit to the invention and arrangement of Mr. Cormack; but here, again, the transformation scene is neither original nor very pretty. If the harlequinade were curtailed the pantomime would certainly be improved. The children's scenes and the Vokes family would

alone make the pantomime at Drury a success; and up to this time, at both morning and evening performances, there has hardly been standing room.

Another excellent old-fashioned pantomime for children will be found at the PRINCESS'S, which revived this kind of entertainment after a silence of six years. It is written by the Brothers Grimm, who well know what they are about. It has a comic scene of the animals hunting the persecuting man, suggested by one of the best of children's books, and is emphatically a success. Miss Caroline Parkes, as lively and as funny as ever, takes the lead, and Mr. F. Lloyds paints some capital and effective scenery. The programme at the Oxford-street theatre, which contains a strong and well-acted drama, as well as a good pantomime, has attractions of which few other theatres can boast.

An extravaganza of average merit, called "Little Snowwhite," has been produced at the ADELPHI, a theatre at which such entertainments are altogether out of place. Liveliness is the last thing to be expected at the Adelphi, and even Mrs. Wood has to work very hard to extract the necessary amount of sparkle. Mrs. Mellon is there to be sure, but Mrs. Mellon's extravaganza days are over. The waterfall scene, by Mr. F. Lloyds, is as well worth seeing as anything in the entertainment. Mr. Halliday's "Notre Dame" has been revived, Miss Rose Leclercq playing Esmeralda instead of Miss Furtado, who is engaged elsewhere "On the Jury."

So successful was a representation of "London Assurance" at the VAUDEVILLE, on the occasion of an afternoon benefit for the Mark Lemon Fund, last week, that it will be repeated as the regular play of the evening, commencing from to-night. Mr. Henry Neville has been specially engaged to play Charles Courtley, and Mr. John Clayton, who has left the Court Theatre, will act Dazzle. It will be interesting to see Mr. William Farren as Sir Harcourt Courtley—the great character made by his father. The revival of this celebrated comedy will while away the time until Mr. Albery's new play is ready for representation.

To-night will be acted for the first time at the QUEEN'S Mr. John Oxenford's version of "The Last Days of Pompeii," a play which has been long and anxiously rehearsed. I hear that the scenery will be magnificent. The final result of the ballot-boxes at this theatre is now known, "Cymbeline" having by far the greatest number of votes; so, if promises are not like pie-crust in this instance, "Cymbeline" will be the Shakspearean revival for the autumn.

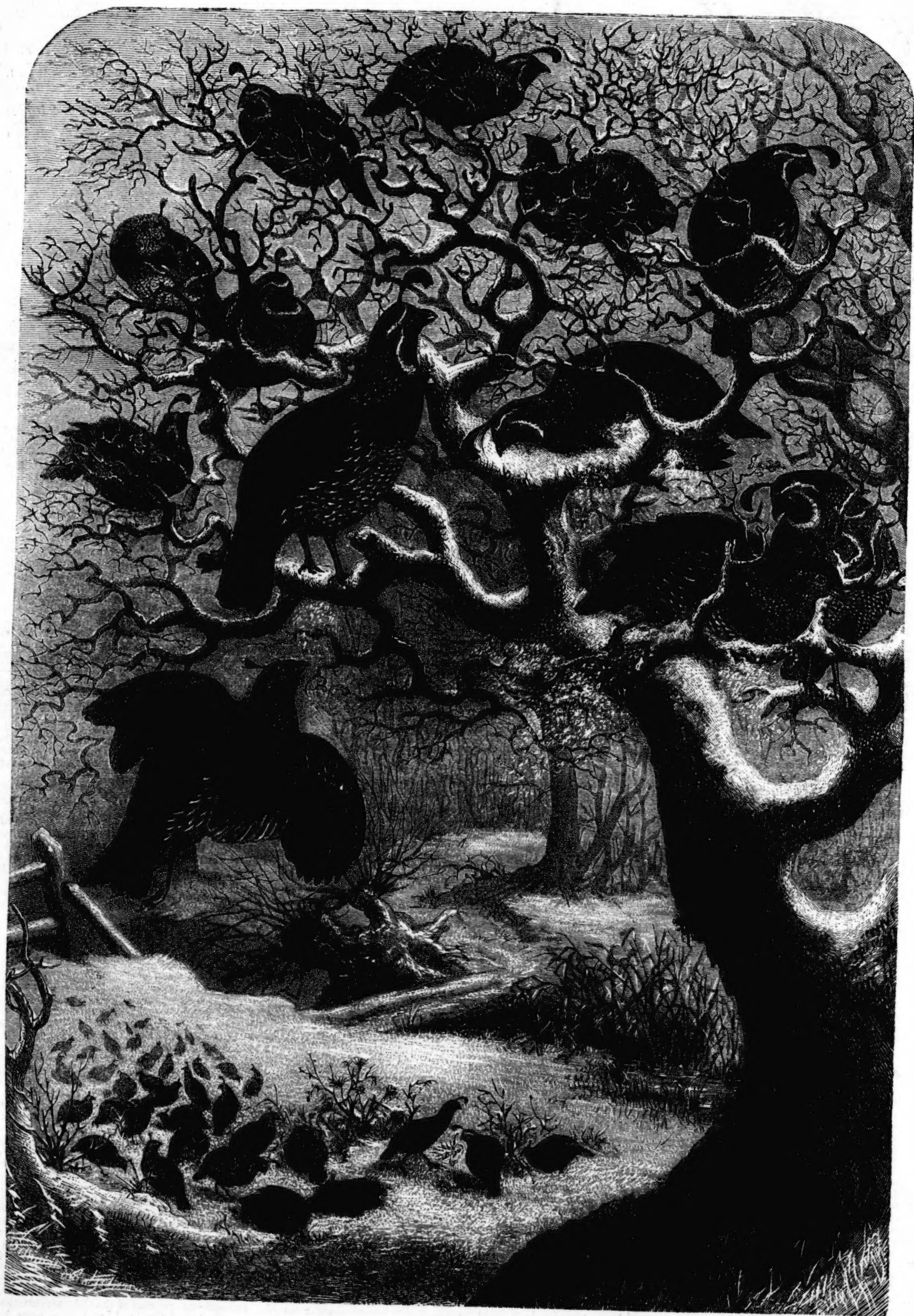
Among the Christmas entertainments proper, as distinguished from the pantomimes and burlesques at theatres, Mrs. German Reed takes the lead with a very prettily-told Christmas story by the veteran and ever-welcome J. R. Planché. The trifle goes capably, and Mrs. Reed, Miss Holland, Mr. Cecil, and Mr. Corney Grain are unusually good. Mr. German Reed is still away on the Continent. If those who love a true sensation desire to see Herr Holtum catch a cannon-ball out of the mouth of a cannon which is deliberately fired at him, they should hurry off to the Amphitheatre in Holborn, where, among other good things, this marvellous trick is nightly performed. Hengler's Circus is also very good; and a far worse evening could be spent than in the society of that most talented of all single-handed entertainers, Mr. Maccabe, now located at the Charing Cross.

CRESTED QUAILS.

The ortolan, or beccafico, the landrail, and the quail are among those luxuries of gastronomy which are frequently talked about but seldom enjoyed, except at great banquets, where a dish of the birds may be handed about and only appreciated by a few people who have learned to think them peculiarly delicious, just as others have a kind of passion for boiled tripe, or roast breast of mutton, medlars, liver and bacon, caviare, Aldboro' dried sprats, chutnee, Dutch herring, or Gruyère cheese. We remember being once at a dinner where an unaccustomed guest, helping himself to a quail, left the head of the bird in the dish. "Don't you want that?" inquired a more experienced *viveur*. "No, thank you," returned the simple one, with a smile; whereupon the gourmet, with grave rapture, removed the head to his own plate, and, only just severing the beak, slowly devoured the tit-bit—an exquisite nut, with crisp, soluble bone for a shell, and delicate brain for a kernel. Knowledge is power. It is a little remarkable that quails should be so much of a luxury, by reason of their scarcity, in this country; for they exist in enormous numbers in several parts of Europe. They are not very numerous here, though they breed in some counties; but they are almost universally diffused through Europe, Asia, and Africa, and we may now add that a very beautiful species is found in California.

We know them here as birds of passage, flocks of which traverse the Mediterranean Sea, from Europe to the shores of Africa, in the autumn, and, returning again in the spring, frequently alighting, in their passage, on many of the islands of the Archipelago. On the western coasts of Naples such prodigious numbers have appeared that 100,000 have been taken in a day within the space of four or five miles. From these circumstances it appears highly probable that the quails which supplied the Israelites with food during their journey through the wilderness were sent thither, on their passage to the north, by a wind from the south-west, sweeping over Egypt and Ethiopia, towards the shores of the Red Sea. Capri has in all ages been celebrated for the numbers of quails caught there. The principal revenues of the Bishop and some of the convents were derived from the quails they sent to Naples. There have been 12,000 taken in a day, and 150,000 during the season, by means of nets stretched between high poles in the low, flat grounds, or by men who held the nets, fastened to two sticks, stretched out before them, while others drove towards them the quails, which, having alighted to rest, were too exhausted to take a strong flight, but, striking the net, were easily enfolded. Quails belong to the partridge family, and exhibit many of the same characteristics, especially in their manner of making their nests in holes close to the ground, their remarkable care and protection of their young, and the fortitude with which they will defend them. They are, however, very pugnacious birds, and the young brood separates almost as soon as it is hatched or after following the mother for a very short time. Quails were formerly pitted against each other by the Greeks and Romans, just as gamecocks were taken to a match in England. The same practice continued in some parts of Italy to modern times, and the Chinese continue it to the present day. The common quail is 7 in. to 8 in. long, with a dusky bill, hazel eyes, and a mixture—brown, black, and ash-colour—in the head, neck, and back; a yellow streak is seen on each eye, and another of the same colour down the middle of the forehead; a dark line passes from each corner of the bill, forming a kind of gorget above the breast. The scapular feathers are marked by a light yellowish streak down the middle of each; the quills are a lightish brown, with small rust-coloured bands on the exterior of the feathers. The breast is of pale rust-colour, spotted with black and streaked with pale yellow. The tail consists of twelve feathers barred like the wings. The female is without the black spot on the breast and is less vivid in plumage. This characteristic belongs to almost all birds, and is the same in the beautiful Californian quails represented in our Engraving, a variety distinguished—as are some of the Oriental varieties—by a feathered tuft on the top of the head, and by a more brilliant and lustrous feathering. Should this charming variety be acclimatised in Europe, it may well take up its abode in some of the woods as well as the preserves of our English counties, since it is hardy, and appears to be strong on the wing, and thickly as well as finely plumed.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—The following notice has been issued by the School Board for London and distributed throughout the metropolis:—"To parents and others who have charge of children. The School Board has been empowered to require parents of children from five to thirteen years of age to send them to school, unless there is some reasonable excuse. There are numerous vacancies in existing schools. The School Board, therefore, hereby desires to urge all parents at once to send their children to some school where sufficient instruction is given."



CRESTED QUAILS OF CALIFORNIA.



THE LAKE SANDRINGHAM

SANDRINGHAM CHURCH

THE TERRACE



SANDRINGHAM

HOUSE



ON THE RIVER LYNN



W. H. PRIOR del

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE

HOMES OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

HOMES OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

THE recent alarming illness, and now happy recovery, of the Prince of Wales have imparted special interest to the scenes and surroundings amid which his Royal Highness lives, and we consequently feel confident that the accompanying Engraving, reproducing sketches made at Sandringham and its neighbourhood, with a view of Marlborough House, the Prince's London residence, will be welcome to our readers. The mansion at Sandringham, erected by his Royal Highness a few years ago for a country residence, is situated near Castle Rising, in Norfolk, and not far from King's Lynn, or Lynn Regis, on the south-eastern bank of the river Wash. The railway from Lynn to Hunstanton, running parallel with the seacoast, has a station at Wolferton, three miles from Castle Rising, and seven or eight from the town of Lynn. A mile or two further on is the hamlet of Dersingham. On the right hand of a traveller going towards Hunstanton is Sandringham House, with its park and plantations, its small parish church, and the cottages and farm buildings of the Prince's estate. Sandringham is situated on a series of undulating hills, composed of drift or gravel, and must at one time have been the boundary of the sea, as anchors are still found here and there imbedded in the soil. The Prince has planted firs and other trees in great abundance, and they are thriving well, affording plenty of cover to the pheasants, which he desires to preserve. There is also a lake, well stocked with fish and water-fowl; and the terraces, lawns, drives, &c., afford fine promenades. Some notion of what the Prince has done to improve the property, and to better the condition of the residents upon it, may be obtained from an article on the subject which appears in another column.

Sandringham church stands on a hillock adjoining the north side of the park, and is a well-proportioned little building, comprising nave, chancel, south porch, and square tower, with one bell. On the tower during the hours of service floats the naval pennant. According to the county history, this church was beautifully and judiciously restored by Lady Harriet Cowper, daughter and coheir of the Earl of Blessington, and wife of the Hon. C. Spencer Cowper, in memory of their child, Marie Harriet Cowper. The chancel is in the Decorated style, and the rest of the edifice Perpendicular. Over the arch of the porch is a well-sculptured figure of a guardian angel. The east window is filled with stained glass. There are several other stained-glass windows, and some of Munich glass, in which the subjects are simply traced in outline on a golden ground. The font is new, but its tall, crocketed cover is of the time of Henry VII. The pulpit is of stone, with a marble shaft and ecclesiastical devices in glass mosaic. There are two stones robbed of their brasses; one of them bears an inscription to William Cobbiss, who died in 1546. The parish register dates from 1557. The rectory, valued at £200 a year, with that of Babingley annexed, is in the patronage of the Prince, and the incumbent is the Rev. W. Lake Onslow, R.N., who has a good residence and thirty-two acres of glebe. The Rector was presented to the living in July, 1866, by his Royal Highness as patron. Mr. Onslow had before been the special naval instructor to the Duke of Edinburgh, in the Euryalus, in the Mediterranean squadron; the St. George, in the North American and West Indies; the Racoon, the Mediterranean and Cape. Mr. Onslow has served in the Navy twenty-one years as chaplain and naval instructor in every part of the world, and received this living on completing his term of service. Besides the naval pennant floating over the tower, which speaks the chaplain's attachment to his old service, there may be seen affixed over the door of the Rectory a little plate which announces it to be situated in lat. 52° 49' N., long. 0° 3' E., a calculation duly made by the Rector himself, and vouched to be correct. The service is pleasingly chanted by the children from the schools of the Princess of Wales, the Prince, and the Rector, who support them by joint contributions.

Marlborough House, the town residence of the Prince of Wales, stands at the west end of Pall-mall, next to St. James's Palace. The garden front is cheerful; that towards Pall-mall is gloomy, and much concealed from public view by a wall. The house was built, in 1710, for the first Duke of Marlborough, from Wren's designs. The Duke and his Duchess both died here. It was bought, in 1817, for the Princess Charlotte and her husband, Prince Leopold. The latter lived in it some years. After the death of William IV. his widow resided here. A new portico has been added, and other improvements have been made, to make it a fit residence for the Prince.

RAILWAY REFORM.—At a meeting of railway directors, which will probably be held in the middle of next week, it will be resolved, in order to increase the safety of the public, that no pointman, guard, or engine-driver shall ever be on duty much more than six and forty hours at a stretch, and that every such servant shall always, when on duty, be allowed at least four minutes, no less than three times daily, for the enjoyment of his meals. With the like view of security it will also be resolved that porters shall on branch lines be required to act as pointmen, signalmen, and ticket clerks, and that due and timely notice of the changes in the time-tables shall on no account be furnished to the drivers of goods-trains.—*Punch*.

THE "NEW-CUT."—The shopkeepers of the "New-cut" are unanimous in their determination to resist by all constitutional means the attempts of the Lambeth Vestry to compel them to close their houses on Sunday. The result of the threatening notices which had been served upon them by the vestry clerk last week, under the provisions of the Sunday Trading Act, was visible on Sunday in the increased number of shops that were opened. Even those who had previously been in the habit of closing expressed their sympathy with their fellow-traders by making an exception to the rule, and a committee was organized to counteract the attempts of the Vestry by every legal measure. From ten till one o'clock an unusually brisk trade was carried on alike by tradesmen and costermongers, and defiance to the vestry was freely and unanimously expressed.

FIRE IN AN HOSPITAL.—An alarming fire broke out, on New-Year's Day, at the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. The cause of the accident is said to have been an escape of gas; and, on the alarm being given, measures were taken to remove the patients. On one floor of the ward where the outbreak occurred there were thirty male patients, and on another floor a large number of women. Immediately to the east was the fever ward, and to the west were the accident wards, all, unfortunately, fully tenanted by suffering patients. By great exertions, and the neighbours offering their aid, all the inmates, 155 in number, were safely housed elsewhere; and the fever patients were placed in a newly-erected detached library to the east of the main building. The greater part of the edifice fell a prey to the flames.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.—A special general court of the governors of the above valuable institution, at present situated at Ratcliff-cross, was held, on Tuesday, at the London Tavern.—Mr. T. Scrutton in the chair. There was a numerous and influential attendance. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said the want of accommodation in the present building, and the inability of the committee through want of room to admit one quarter of the number of applicants, had induced them, trusting to the benevolence of the public and the increased exertions of the friends of the hospital, to decide upon erecting a new hospital at a cost of about £8000, in which at least one hundred beds could be provided instead of the thirty-two contained in the present building. Having thus decided, the next thing was to obtain an eligible site in the locality, and this had been a work of some difficulty. The committee, however, had at last succeeded in obtaining an eligible piece of ground, in an open situation, close to the Peabody-buildings, Shadwell, the cost of which would be £1500. This, perchance, with other incidental expenses, would absorb nearly the whole of the invested stock, which was about £2500, and the object of the present special meeting was to give authority to the trustees to sell out and realize the invested securities for the above purposes. He had, however, great pleasure in informing the governors that, since the advertisement convening the meeting had appeared, an anonymous friend had sent a donation of £1000, and he had reason to believe that this was the second donation of that amount from the same source. Mr. Norris then moved the following resolution:—"That the weekly board be authorized to request the trustees to sell out and realize all the securities now standing in their names on behalf of the hospital, and to pay the money over to the treasurer." He explained that, although the resolution empowered the trustees, under the sanction of the committee of management, to realize all the securities, it was understood they would only sell to the actual amount required; nor would the resolution apply to any future investments. Mr. Thompson seconded the resolution, which, after some remarks from the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Anderson, and others, was unanimously adopted. In the course of the discussion it was stated that building operations would commence as soon as the ground was handed over to the committee, and that a special appeal would be made to the public in aid of the building fund. Dr. Bruce was elected as visiting physician to the hospital, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, who was also elected on the committee of management.

THE SANDRINGHAM ESTATE.

There are certain facts connected with the management of the Sandringham estate which have a public interest in relation to the recent illness of the Prince, and from which may be derived inferences of general importance. As to some of these I have taken recent opportunities of personal investigation, and I have found a perfect readiness on the part of General Knollys (and, by his direction, of Mr. E. Beck, the Prince's agent), as well as of the Rector of West Newton, the Rev. R. B. Scholefield, to afford information as to the village of West Newton. This is the village lying on the skirt of the park, of which the unsatisfactory sanitary condition has been a subject of discussion. There will be something gained by a more complete account of the facts than has hitherto appeared.

The Sandringham estate consists of about 8000 acres, and includes the parishes of Babingley, West Newton, and Wolferton, with part of Dersingham. It is rich marsh land where it joins the sea near Wolferton; black sand upon car-stone towards the middle of the estate, and light loam upon chalk, adapted for barley and roots, at the east end, towards Anner. The estate was purchased by the Prince in 1862.

At Sandringham and West Newton we find about seven or eight feet usually of the black sand upon car-stone. Attention has been prominently drawn to some ill-built and badly-arranged cottages. They do not present a fair sample of the present state of the village, nor is it possible to draw a just deduction from that which has been said concerning them. The number of inhabited houses this day in West Newton is 62. In this village, however, there are two small freeholds belonging to small proprietors, on which are erected in all 16 cottages, so that the Prince's property in West Newton includes 46 cottages. Of these 26 are entirely new erections since he came into possession. Prior to that time the village consisted of a number of cottages which are described to me by the Rector and others as having been miserable huts, like Irish hovels, most of them with one living-room and one sleeping-room only, many of them destitute of the most necessary sanitary conveniences, and not three in the whole parish having two bed-rooms. Of these cottages 17 have been pulled down during the last six years, and 26 new cottages built. Three more are to be pulled down. Of the increase of the amount of accommodation thus afforded an opinion may be formed from the fact that for a population of the same number the number of bed-rooms in the cottages of the old property was 25, in place of which there have now been provided 67, an increase of 175 per cent in the amount of sleeping room. The improvement in quality is even more marked than the increase in quantity. Of the new cottages in the village there is a row of eight, called the Alexandra Cottages, a group of nine called the Louise Cottages, four cottages designed for old people, and a group of four cottages not yet named.

Of these the Alexandra Cottages were first built, and a brief sketch of these will answer also for the Louise Cottages, which very much resemble them. They are all two-storied cottages, built in the rustic Gothic style, of pleasing elevation, provided with a porch and ample accommodation, built of car-stone, with white and red brick facings, having 14 in. walls, with concreted foundation. Each cottage has on the ground floor a front living-room about 12 ft. by 14 ft. and 9 ft. high, well-lighted; a back kitchen provided with an excellent cooking-stove, oven, and copper; a pantry, and coal-house; above are three good bed-rooms, two with fireplaces. Detached from the house is a brick outhouse, with kindling-shed and sanitary conveniences. Each cottage has 30 perches of garden ground, and some of them have as much field allotment.

The water supply—and here we come to the weak place in the arrangements—is from a well 16 ft. deep, cut through about 8 ft. of sand, and then on the car-stone; it is brick built, and within 20 ft. of the cesspool, and was within 7 ft. of a midden or kitchen heap. The purity of this water has been impugned, and from the analysis which has been published, it would appear not without good reason. The Louise Cottages are built precisely on the same plan, except that they have the further advantage of having well-spouted roofs, which collect the rain-water, and that each house is furnished with a pump connected with the sunken and covered rain-water tank. The well here is 23 ft. deep, and on Saturday contained 7 ft. of water. The garden houses are 100 ft. away at the bottom of the garden, and so are better placed than at the Alexandra Cottages, where they are too near the houses. The cottages for old folk have the bed-room on the same floor as the living-room, and are altogether arranged for the comfort of the old people who are placed in residence. They afford evidence of the characteristic kindness and liberality which preside over all the arrangements of the estate. The rents of the Alexandra and Louise Cottages, with all their comforts and conveniences, and with their five rooms, garden-ground, and allotments, are not higher than were those of the two-roomed huts which they have replaced, or the poor and scanty tenements still existing in the village on the small freeholds to which I have referred.

In going through these new cottages it was pleasant to find them for the most part clean and well kept, and sometimes singularly neat. Many of the garden-ground also were evidently properly valued and carefully cultivated. But not all; and it is evident that some of the cottagers do not appreciate at its worth all that is done to help them and to enable them to help themselves. I was told, however, that a considerable improvement in this respect has been effected all over the estate by the influence of a cottager's garden and flower show for the estate, which is annually held in the park in September, under the auspices of the Prince and Princess and the clergymen and leading tenantry. Prizes are given to the value of £10 for the three cleanest and neatest cottages in each parish on the estate.

If we now turn to the vital statistics of the village we find some facts will deserve further study.

The mortality of the small village population has been enhanced during the last two years by zymotic disease, and if I were to state the percentages and compare them with those of healthy rural districts, they would sound very high indeed. From January to October of this year there have been registered eleven deaths, of which three were from typhoid fever and five from scarlet fever; and last year there were six deaths, of which two were from typhoid fever. If one wanted to make the case look very strong indeed, it would suffice to mention that in the twelve months, from Nov. 10, 1870, to Oct. 13, 1871—the last entry which I find in the register of burials—there have been thirteen deaths in this small population, of which five were from typhoid fever and five from scarlet fever. Nor can I properly omit to mention that there is in the village a fresh case of typhoid fever which has sprung up during the last week. In dealing with small numbers of people, however, such figures so massed do not afford adequate information, unless their actual significance is elucidated by investigation of the local and temporary conditions with which they are associated. Thus, looking back another year through the register, I find that in 1869 there was only one death in the parish, and that from an accident. In 1868 there were eight deaths, of which three were from diphtheria. While eight deaths out of eleven this year were from typhoid or scarlatina; of the remaining three, one was at the age of eighty-two, the other at the age of eighty-three, and the third an infant. Moreover, there has not been any death either from typhoid or scarlet fever in any of the twenty-five new cottages which the Prince has built. No case of typhoid has occurred in them at all; and this is especially significant of good residential and sanitary conditions, although, unless the quality of the drinking water be carefully examined, no one can say that it may not occur. What is still more significant is, that, although scarlatina was imported into the village, and ran through all the Alexandra Cottages, no death occurred. The most excellent residential conditions and purity of air, soil, and water, will not afford immunity from "catching" diseases such as scarlatina, which can only be successfully dealt with by isolation; but cleanliness, ventilation, and sound hygienic conditions greatly lessen their mortality; and this is the moral which may be drawn

from the comparative immunity from death of the Prince's tenants in these cottages.

The black spots of the village are in the cramped and sometimes overcrowded portions, over the greater part of which the Prince's agent has no control. Thus, one of these small properties consists of two blocks, one containing four and the other three cottages. Three out of the first four have only a single bed-room. In one of these cottages there have been living father and mother; an adult daughter, with her two illegitimate children and five of her brothers and sisters—from a lad aged sixteen to a child aged five; in all ten. In a double cottage on this freehold, or, rather, a cottage divided in two, there lived in one half cottage (having a living-room about 12 ft. square and a sleeping-room over it) a family consisting of father and mother, eldest son of twenty-one, married daughter and son-in-law, and five little children: in all five adults and five children. The two rooms thus crowded appear to have been poisoned with contagious filthy nuisances; and, in January, 1871, the eldest son, aged twenty-one, was attacked with typhoid fever and died; in March the mother, aged forty-three, and in April the married daughter, aged twenty, died of the same disease, "filth fever," as it is emphatically named by Dr. Murchison and Mr. Simon. The outbreak of typhoid in 1870 occurred in a cottage occupied by a family then consisting of the father (a widower), two adult sons, a married daughter and son-in-law, and during the early part of the summer four children of the elder daughter and two of a younger daughter: in all thirteen. The cottage had one bed-room and one sitting-room. Ten of this family were stricken with the fever in quick succession, of whom two of the younger children died in November. Everything was done that kindness and liberality could do for them. The house was thoroughly cleaned, they were moved away; from Sandringham House everything that could be of service was supplied with the usual unstinted generosity.

Experience teaches us to look for pollution of the wells and water supply in every outbreak of typhoid fever as the most common cause of the disease. Mr. Barrett, of Grimston, the poor-law medical officer of the district, makes the following valuable observations on this subject:—

"As to the depth of the wells, there are at least two water-bearing strata, besides that supplying the surface water; for at the top of the hill the water is 15½ ft. from the surface, while near the bottom of the hill it is 32 ft. from the surface. Lower still the water is only 2 ft. from the surface. So the wells are not all shallow. There have been two epidemics of typhoid in the village, one beginning in 1860, the other in 1870, each in the month of September. In each outbreak of fever there were two different centres of the disease, each centre using a separate well. There were, therefore, four different wells open to question, which I will name after the people using them, giving the measurement from the ground to the top of the water, as follows:—Dye's, 32½ ft., near bottom of hill; Melton's, shallow, now replaced by a deeper one, top of hill; Boughen's, 2 ft., bottom of hill; Smith's, 9½ ft., on the fall of the hill. Smith's well has been analysed, but neither Boughen's nor Dye's; and, if we are to look to the wells for the source of this disease, it would be interesting to know what their analysis would reveal, especially as each comes from a different stratum."

The circumstances connected with the supposed outbreak of diarrhoea and enteric fever among the visitors to Loundborough Lodge have directed public attention to the fertile source of disease in the pollution of air and water by sewer gas, from ill-ventilated drains, and from the ill-arranged inlets of sewers within dwelling-houses. I am not without hope that the present report on enteric fever in West Newton will serve an equally beneficial purpose by attracting equal attention to that well-known, but much neglected, source of typhoid, diarrhoea, and cholera—the pollution of wells by penetration of foul matter through the soil. Other parts of the county of Norfolk are not without need of such forcible teaching, as will be seen by the following account, which appears this week concerning Thetford:—

"The subject of the drainage and water supply of this town is creating an interest closely bordering upon alarm. Private inquiries in connection with our present water supply from wells and pumps disclose a most deplorable state of things. The well waters, in nine cases out of ten, are shown to be fearfully contaminated with animal and vegetable sewage, most of the cess-pools and drains being in close contiguity to the wells, and they are in many cases proved to be connected by means of sandfalls and other apertures which allow the unfiltered drainage to pour into them in a stream, so that after a moderate fall of rain the water drawn from these wells becomes as 'thick as a puddle,' as the occupiers of the houses so situated describe it. From 80 to 90 per cent of the wells are believed to be so situated and connected with drains or 'dead wells.' Consequently, these dead wells seldom or never require to be emptied, as the greater part of the liquid sewage percolates the soil and empties itself into the adjoining well, the water of which is, when possible, used for domestic purposes."

That which is true concerning Thetford is not less true concerning a large number of towns and villages throughout the country. Typhoid fever, it is known, is essentially the fever of the country as typhus is that of great cities. It attacks every year in this country about 100,000 people, of whom it kills from 20,000 to 25,000. They for the most part absorb the poison by drinking water polluted with sewage.

It would not be right, I think, that I should conclude this report without saying a few words as to certain facts against which I have stumbled in the course of inquiry. It has been seen that, during the few years of the proprietorship of the Prince of Wales, he has gone far towards removing from that part of the village over which he has control all the sources of disease and degradation, and converting it into something approaching a model village. The large number of new cottages which he has built have every comfort and every provision for health and domestic propriety. They have been built at a considerable expense; they are let at very moderate rents. The rate of earnings has risen considerably meantime from the increased demand for labour. Every inducement is held out to neatness, cleanliness, order, and good conduct. West Newton has been provided with a school, towards which the Prince and Princess of Wales contribute half the cost of maintenance, besides many little encouragements in the way of school feasts, at which they personally attend and take their share in making the little ones happy, as well as annual gifts of cloaks. The Princess, during her residence at the hall, goes frequently to the schools and takes a class, and the little ones are well accustomed to her kindly presence. For the sick there is an organised system, by which doctors and clergy alike can and do draw directly upon the hall for every comfort which is needed, and for the minor luxuries which alleviate sickness and hasten cure. A spirit of intelligent thoughtfulness and kindness pervades the whole management of the estate. The schools of Sandringham parish are maintained not less liberally than that of Newton. Of the game which is shot upon the estate, a large part is presented by the Prince's direction to the county and other hospitals. What is done is carried out merely by the efficient execution by General Knollys and Mr. Beck, and by the rectors of the parishes, of the Prince's general directions. It is done, indeed, in great measure under his own supervision, by his own wish, and according to his own plans; and the great improvements which have been made on the estate are due to his own active fulfilment of the highest duties of a landed proprietor. This explains something of that strong personal affection which has been manifested by all on the estate during the Prince's illness, for he has that happy gift of frankness and kindness of manner which is so much valued by the people. Gentle and gracious, he inherits a strong sense of justice, and a scrupulous regard for his promise. The tenants on his estate have everything to expect from a continuance of that personal attention which he has hitherto given to this fine estate, which has all the elements of salubrity as well as other natural advantages.—*Special Correspondent of the "Times."*

THE MEMBERS FOR OXFORD ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Vernon Harcourt dined on Monday with the friends at Oxford, and made speeches as usual after dinner on public affairs. Mr. Cardwell began by a reference to the manifestations of loyalty called forth by the Prince's illness, which he said we know, and made foreign nations know, that the Throne, which has descended from Egbert, was never more firmly rooted in the affections of an entire people, and that our institutions are founded upon a rock. What has happened well, in Mr. Cardwell's opinion, give "a more determined vent" to that feeling which was already growing strong among us, that social measures and improvements affecting the well-being of the people must more and more attract the attention of the Government and of Parliament. Sanitary questions naturally stood in the first rank; and regarding these, as well as education and other matters, Mr. Cardwell took occasion to remark on the changed feeling with which the action of the State was now regarded:—

When I first took an interest in the subject of education no one was in a position of that which is now an accomplished object—namely, that the State should undertake the duty of carrying education almost to every child in the kingdom. At that time the Church was opposed to the Nonconformists were opposed to it; the almost universal desire was that education should be accomplished by voluntary means, and those who were in favour of a State education were a small body in advance of the people. But I wish to refer to another question which has occupied a great deal of public interest and attention. I mean the difficult subject which is called the licensing question—the use of alcoholic drinks. I am not going to enter into any controversy on any of these questions. The time is approaching when we shall have enough of controversy. I am only reminding that whereas we were formerly contented to say to the Legislature with the Greek philosopher, "Stand out of my sunshine, and that is all I want," we are now desirous of bringing the collected action of the country to bear upon what we consider desirable objects to attain. That is a higher object for the Government and the Legislature; but, being a higher object, it is naturally attended with great difficulties, and we must be prepared to meet with obstacles and be prepared to overcome them.

Mr. Cardwell proceeded to remark that if the social reforms we desire are to be accomplished, there must be the utmost disposition to merge minor differences for the purpose of attaining great objects; in short, there must be a universal spirit of forbearance and conciliation running through the whole community. Demurring to the opinion so commonly expressed that the last Session was a barren one, Mr. Cardwell proceeded to advert to the abolition of purchase, the effect of which was that now, when an officer is appointed or promoted those who have to decide the question will have to examine not the length of his purse, but his proficiency in military knowledge. Purchase had become an anachronism; it was a reflection upon the country, and it would have been a reflection upon the Government if they had permitted it to continue. We have no right to expect constant and unremitting professional devotion, and, at the same time, require men to come forward with large sums of money at the moment when promotion is to be conferred upon them on the ground of merit. Well (continued the right hon. gentleman) what we have done is this. We have thrown the British Army open to every family in the kingdom. Every well-educated boy may present himself for competitive examination, and hope to receive the commission of his Sovereign; every officer when he once has entered the Army may hope to have a fair career before him, and to attain that promotion to which his seniority or his peculiar merit may entitle him, without being called on to save money or to place a balance at his banker's in order to enable the authorities to promote him. Going on to speak of the autumn manoeuvres, Mr. Cardwell said: "For the first time in the history of this country, I believe it was imagined that the owners and occupiers of land would have objected, in the manner in which the owners of land in Germany have done during the last few years. But we have no claims worth speaking of—no compensation to pay worth mentioning. Everybody gave us a most kind and generous assistance, and a good spirit was evoked both among soldiers and civilians, and we shall complete the whole expense, not for the large sums which rumour has mentioned, but for the modest sum which we proposed. From these observations Mr. Cardwell passed to a definition of the position of England in relation to foreign Powers, and a statement of the policy which it involves:—

A great deal has lately been said about what our position in the world really is. That position has been established a great many years, and I do not see any reason to establish it anew. We are not a Continental Power. We are not a Transatlantic Power. We are an insular Power, with the largest foreign dominions and the most scattered dominions of any Power in the world. The natural consequence is that our first arm is fleet, and it is the Navy. The next is that we desire to have at hand an Army like our Navy—first rate in quality, but not large in quantity. If we were a Transatlantic nation, we should have no relations requiring an armed force with regard to Continental nations. If we were a Continental nation, we should require a larger armed force than we now possess. Being an insular country we have Continental obligations to which we may be called upon to do justice, and for that purpose we ought to be prepared. But, in the main, I can illustrate our position by repeating to you one of the oldest anecdotes in history. Herodotus, the father of history, at the beginning of his work, relates this anecdote: He says that the King of Lydia, not being content with his Continental possessions, determined to create a fleet to conquer the islands of Greece. Hearing that there was in his capital one of the celebrated wise men of Greece, he sent for him, and asked him what was the news respecting Greece. The reply was, "The news from Greece is this. The islands of Greece are preparing their cavalry and infantry in order to attack your Continental possessions." He said, "I am glad that God has put that into the heads of the islanders, so manifest is it that it must lead to their destruction." "But do you not think," inquired the wise man, "that the islanders of Greece will be equally pleased when they hear that God has put it into your head to create a fleet to conquer them?" I think that story illustrates our position. I think it will be long before any Continental Power creates a fleet to conquer the islands of the United Kingdom, and I think it will be a long time before our military forces will be required to conquer any Continental Power.

Mr. Cardwell concluded by some words of congratulation on the Washington Treaty, on the prevalence of peace in Europe, and on the unexampled prosperity of English manufactures.

Mr. Harcourt spoke more at length in eulogy of the Treaty of Washington; and then proceeded to comment on the state of public feeling, about which he said, "the reason and the sentiment of this nation have alike declared with no ambiguous voice that it is satisfied with the great framework of the institutions under which we live, and that it desires no organic revolution in the fabric of that Constitution which has given us a real liberty—say, and a practical equality such as no other people in the world have yet achieved." Less satisfied than his colleague with last Session's work, Mr. Harcourt avowed his fear that if Parliamentary government be indeed upon its trial, the Session of 1871 has not done much to secure a favourable verdict. Economy, however, was the chief topic of the hon. member's observations. He claimed great credit for Mr. Gladstone's Government on that score, but insisted that our expenditure must be still greatly reduced.

Few people take the trouble to reflect on the frightful growth of the public expenditure in the last twenty years, for more than three-fourths of which, I am sorry to say, Liberal Governments are responsible. Twenty years ago at our time of life seems a short period. We all remember 1851 very well; it was the year of the Great Exhibition. What do you think our public expenditure was then? It was 55 millions. It is now above 72 millions. If you deduct the interest of the Debt, which is less now than it was then, you will find that the controllable expenditure of 1851 was 27 millions. It is now 46 millions—i.e., it has increased very near 20 millions above 27 millions. You may suppose that this increase is due to some natural and inevitable law of growth of expenditure with the increase of population and prosperity of the country. That is not so. The progress of the nation was probably not relatively less from 1830 to 1850 than from 1850 to 1870. But there was no increase of public expenditure. Indeed, for thirty years before 1851 the expenditure stood at an almost constant figure of somewhat above 50 millions, and that with a fixed charge for the Debt. Now, carry back your minds to 1830 and tell me what there is you get now for 20 millions more money than you got then. Have you more comfort at home? More in your influence abroad? Is your public service twice as well administered? Is your diplomatic service more expensive? Is your legal service better? I believe not. Is your colonial administration more costly? Not at all; in that period you have practically abolished the colonial system, and your Colonial Office is almost a sinecure. Does it go in the

How? If so, how? Is your Army twice as numerous or twice as efficient? Are you more competent to defend in the five minutes' dream of some people, that of fighting Europe all round? Does your Navy exhibit less "alacrity in sinking"? I ask the increased charge for education; but that is only one million. With the increase of the other 19 millions? I will venture to let you into the secret of it. I have modified a very old motto which you know how, and goes now by the name of "I know it all." I believe, means spending more than you get. This is the favorite argument of the spokesmen of the wealthy. It is never taken with patience in this apology for extravagance. Yes, the country is very rich in the sense that it contains a great many rich people in it who are daily growing more rich. But in a much truer sense the country is very poor. It contains a great many more people who are very poor and who are daily becoming poorer. I wish those gentlemen would bear in mind the profound saying of Burke, that "the public is always poor." It is in regard to this public that the Government are bound to resist the invitations of the rich and the few to indulge in the luxury of public extravagance. Just consider what an increased expenditure of 20 millions means. It means 20 millions of taxes, which, but for that expenditure, might be disposed of as they pleased. If the Government of our day knew how to administer our affairs for anything like the sum which sufficed the Governments of the Duke of Wellington, of Lord Grey, of Lord Melbourne, of Sir R. Peel, of Lord J. Russell, what a Budget we might have! I shall make your mouths water only to speak of it. You might remit the whole of the customs duties upon tea, sugar, and coffee, and leave no tax upon any articles of consumption except tobacco and fermented liquors. You might, in addition to this, dispense with the whole of the income tax. These remissions would amount to £10,000,000, and, allowing for the elasticity of the revenue due to such large reductions, you would still be able to provide for an expenditure larger by five or six millions than that which so lately sufficed us. What a difference would such a state of things produce in the comfort and happiness of all classes!

EARL RUSSELL ON EDUCATION.

Two letters have been published this week, written by Earl Russell from Cannes to Mr. Alfred Bourne, of the British and Foreign School Society. In the first, which is dated the 20th ult., his Lordship says:—

"The clergy seem to me to be as Dr. Whately described them—when in alarm so much frightened that, like horses in a stable in a fire, they cannot be induced to move out of the way of danger. Were it otherwise, they would know that this is not a time to give just and deep offence to the Protestant Dissenters of England and Wales. Then that gentleman calling himself a 'Hertfordshire Incumbent' writes to the *Times* that if we in our teaching confine ourselves to the Bible we shall be obliged to omit the Lord's Prayer. Has this gentleman never read the Gospel of St. Matthew? or has he forgotten the excellent comment on the Lord's Prayer contained in that Gospel?"

On Christmas Day the noble Earl wrote thus:—
"My dear Sir,—Do you think the 'Hertfordshire Incumbent' has read the Lord's Prayer in the sixth chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel; and, above all, has he read the admirable comment which Christ himself made on that prayer and on the doctrine of forgiveness—a doctrine in the Lord's Prayer which is omitted in the explanation of it given in the Church Catechism? To pass to another subject. In 1839 I obtained the Queen's sanction to a declaration that she wished the 'youth of this kingdom to be religiously brought up, and the rights of conscience to be respected.' This has been the case in England, in Scotland, and in Ireland, where the late Lord Derby planted a sapling, not of the upas tree, but coming from an acorn of the British oak. 'It has occurred, however, to some enemies of religious liberty that to give our Dissenters a religious education and respect their rights of conscience was too much; that to have one of the two was quite enough for Dissenters. They have, therefore, invented the Conscience Clause. By this clause, if a Baptist desires for his son a religious education, he will find plenty of national schools where a religious education in Church principles is given. Or if he wishes the rights of conscience to be respected, he has only to keep his son away from the religious instruction, and his opinion on infant baptism will be entirely respected. In this, moreover, the good Archbishop Sumner told the Dissenters of Farnham that they must either renounce religious instruction in their school, or they must learn the Church Catechism. They preferred the Church Catechism. Dissenters will generally do so. But is not the alternative a hard one? Why should not the gracious intentions of the Queen of 1839 be fully carried into effect? I am told that more room than is sufficient will in that case be provided. Sufficient for what? More than is sufficient for packing closely the boys and girls to be taught, but not more than sufficient for faith and conscience. To drive all the children of Dissenters into the national school-rooms is a hardship as great as if the Tory Lord Nottingham had in the Toleration Act made room for all the Dissenters and Roman Catholics in the old Catholic churches, instead of allowing them to build chapels for themselves. But the Tories of 1690 were more liberal than the present Liberal House of Commons. A phrase of mine in a former letter respecting the Church of Christ has been much misunderstood. In reading Southey's 'Life of Wesley' I was much struck with a letter of Wesley's, in the second volume, respecting a relation who had joined the Church of Rome. In that letter Wesley says that, although he disapproves much of the Church of Rome, he cannot deny that if his relation has a true love of Christ, he does not see why, remaining in that Church, he may not obtain his salvation. But if in the Church of Rome, why not in any Christian communion? Why should it be denied to any who profess and call themselves Christians that they be brought into the way of truth and possess the faith in the unity of the spirit, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life, without leaving their present church or their present chapel? Why should our charity be bounded? Why should our love, which St. Paul places before faith and hope, be limited and restricted either by the Pope at the Vatican or the Archbishop at Lambeth?"

SEVEN PERSONS were summoned before the Liverpool magistrates, last Saturday, at the instance of the school board, for non-compliance with a notice to send their children to school. In nearly every case a fine of 2s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. costs was imposed.

DR. LANCASTER has been elected, without opposition, to a vacancy at the Grosvenor School Board. He is a member of the Church of England, but strongly opposed to the payment of fees to denominational schools, upon which question he lately headed an influential deputation to the local board.

THE REPORT OF THE INSPECTORS appointed to inquire into the condition of the Smallpox Hospital at Hampstead has been issued. They find nothing whatever in any one of the seven charges as matter for reprehension, and declare their opinion that seldom have accusations so general in character, so wide in their scope, and so seriously arousing public anxiety, been based upon such slight and insufficient grounds.

TWO YOUNG MEN, named James and Nesbit, quarrelled in a public-house at South Shields, on Monday morning, with a young foreign sailor named Pribenbad, who was accompanied by a young woman. The men went outside to fight, and Pribenbad gave a sum of money and his watch to the woman. In a few minutes James and Nesbit took hold of Pribenbad and flung him into the river, where he was drowned, the darkness preventing any assistance being rendered.

A POLICEMAN in the Y DIVISION, named Andrews, when on duty near Chesham, a few days ago, met, at 3 a.m., a man carrying a bundle. When the man saw the policeman he threw down the bundle and ran away. The constable pursued and overtook him, and a severe struggle took place. The thief got away and was again pursued by the constable, who, on leaping a hedge, caught his feet against a stake and fell into a ditch head downwards. The man then turned on the officer and stabbed him in thirty-eight places. He is now in a very dangerous state.

THE INFLUENCE OF MARRIAGE.—M. Bertillon has made a communication on this subject to the Brussels Academy of Medicine, which has been published in the *Revue Scientifique*. From twenty-five to thirty years of age the mortality per 1000 in France amounts to 6.2 in married men, 10.2 in bachelors, and 21.8 in widows. In Brussels the mortality of married men is 9 per 1000, girls the same, and widows as high as 16.9. In Belgium, from 7 per 1000 among married men, the number rises to 8.5 in bachelors and 24.6 in widows. The proportion is the same in Holland. From 8.2 in married men, it rises to 11.7 in bachelors and 16.9 in widows. The 12.8 among married women, 8.5 in spinsters, and 23.9 years of age result of all the calculation is that from twenty-five to thirty years of age the mortality per 1000 is 4 in married men, 10.4 in bachelors, and 22 in widows. This beneficial influence of marriage is manifested at all ages, being always more strongly marked in men than in women.

THE BOOKS OF 1871.

The *Publishers' Circular* has recorded during 1871 the full transcript of the titlepages, with size, price, publishers' names, and number of pages, of 5317 books. This gross number includes 150 of more recent entries for changes of price, and 322 imported new American works, leaving a total of new books and new editions published in Great Britain from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1871, of 4835—in the following proportions of 3517 new books and 1288 new editions. An examination of the corresponding table in our issue for Dec. 31, 1870, in connection with the present, will demonstrate a few notable features. The number of American importations has sensibly diminished, last year's supply being 425 against 322 for this year. The number of new books has decreased from 200 in 1870 to 155 in 1871; but the number of new editions of novels has increased from four-fifths of the number of new novels in 1870 to 5 beyond what they amount to in 1871. The increase in educational works is well marked, the new books being 179 in 1871, against 106 in 1870. The proportion of new editions is about the same. There is a marked increase in new editions of works on political economy, the number being 45, or nearly one half of the new books on that subject in 1871, against 26, or one third, in 1870. There is a decrease in the number of new books on "Travel and Research." The record for 1870 showed 245, that for 1871 shows only 141; but the number of new editions in this division is larger than in 1870, thereby raising the average to about one half of the new books. There is a decrease in the division of "History and Biography," in both new books and new editions. The division of "Poetry" records 176 new books in 1871, against 212 in 1870; but there is no falling off in the number of new editions. Amongst "Miscellaneous" we have included all the pamphlets and brochures connected with the "Tichborne Case" (20), "Dame Europa's School" (about 35), "Battle of Dorking" (30). These tend to augment the gross number of new works in this division. We are disposed to state the opinion that there have been published during 1871 fewer poor books and more good and valuable books than has been the case in previous years. We shall be able to test our opinion in this respect by the number of new editions in 1872. Certainly we have had, in almost every branch of literature, additions of rare value; and authors and publishers alike have reason to congratulate themselves upon a condition of affairs, both moral and political, which has made it possible for English literature to place many means of social and intellectual progress before the world at the close of 1871 that the world did not possess at the close of 1870.

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF BOOKS (INCLUDING NEW BOOKS, NEW EDITIONS, AND AMERICAN IMPORTATIONS) PUBLISHED IN 1871.

Theology, sermons, Biblical, &c.	768
Educational and classical	661
Juvenile works and tales	716
Novels and other works of fiction	332
Law, jurisprudence, &c.	111
Political and social economy, trade and commerce	157
Arts, science, and finely illustrated works	519
Travel and geographical research	233
History and biography	325
Poetry and the drama	325
Year books and bound volumes of serials	385
Medicine and surgery	178
Belles lettres, essays, monographs, &c.	308
Miscellaneous, including pamphlets, not sermons	309
Total	5157

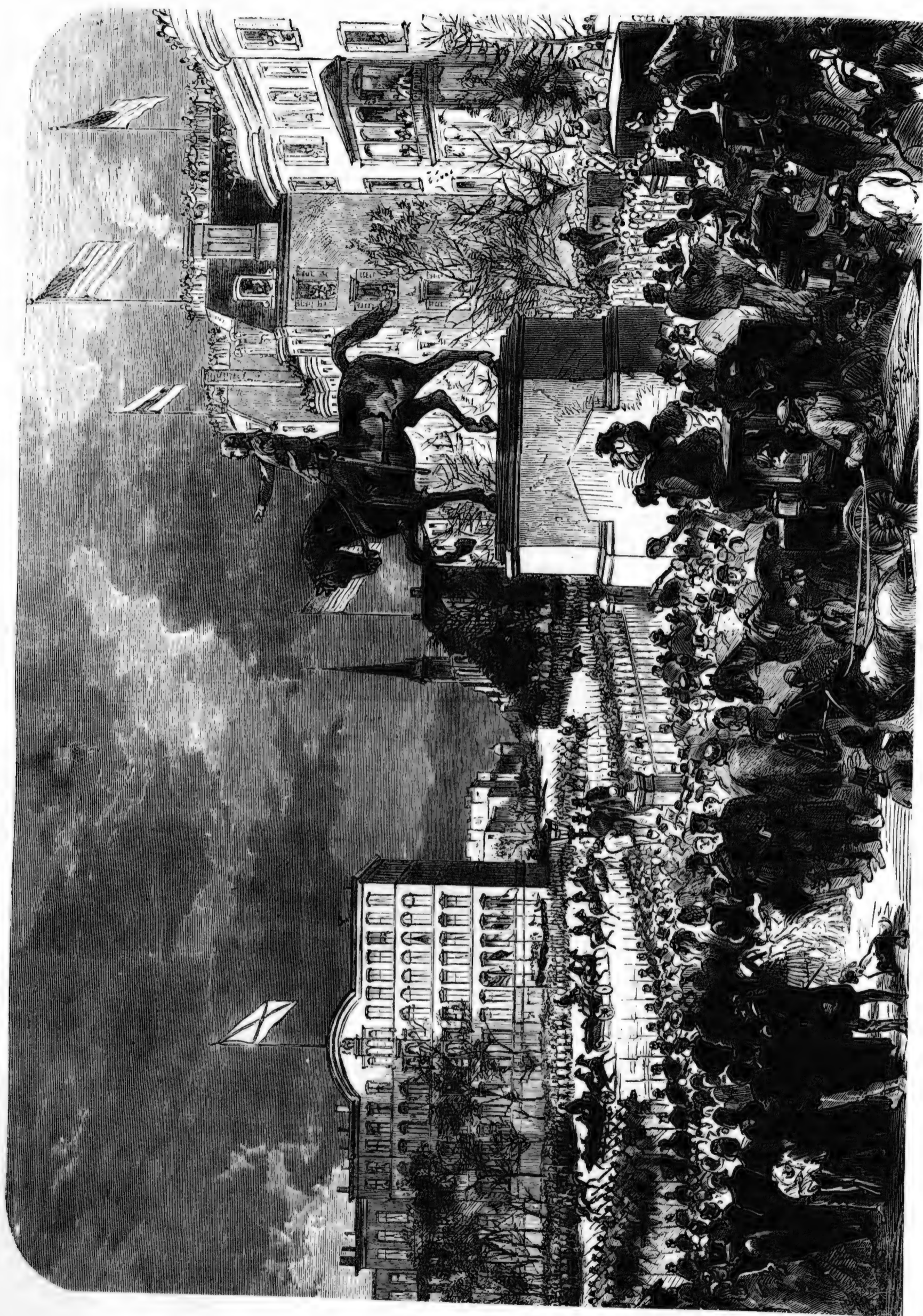
SUMMARY FOR EACH MONTH.

	New Books.	New Editions.	American Importations.
January	275	76	48
February	215	89	21
March	304	121	28
April	308	97	29
May	284	123	2
June	274	90	28
July	221	95	40
August	240	75	23
September	174	114	25
October	263	86	38
November	476	172	40
December	513	150	—
Total	3517	1288	322

Making the total during the twelve months of new publications, 5157.

BISHOP GOSS ON LIBERALISM.—The Right Rev. Dr. Goss, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, visited St. Michael's, West Derby-road, on Sunday, for the purpose of holding a confirmation service, and preached the sermon at mass. In the course of his sermon the Bishop alluded to the Roman Catholic Church as a "revived church," and said he called it "revived" because they had been what the world called "emancipated," and they were supposed to be free, though at the same time they had always to stand on their guard, for those who professed to be their friends, the most liberal party in the Constitution, were liberal because they had separated themselves from the Protestant Church, which was too Conservative, as the Protestant Church separated itself from the Catholic Church because it was too Conservative. There could therefore be no alliance between Liberalism and the Catholics, because Liberalism was even separated more from them than the Established Church of the country; and, though the Liberals might be willing to take their hands and dance round the Established Church until they had toppled it over, there could be no permanent and sincere alliance between them. In saying this he did not speak of what was termed Liberal politics, but he spoke emphatically of what was called Liberalism, of which, perhaps, there was little in this country, but of which there was much on the Continent, where Liberalism, and Atheism, and revolution were almost convertible terms; and he regretted that the Liberalism of the youth of this country was fast turning into revolution. There could be no alliance with Liberalism, because those who had separated themselves from the Established Church on the ground that it was too Conservative would not hesitate to trample underfoot the Catholic Church, which surpassed the Protestant Church in Conservatism as much as Protestantism surpassed Nonconformity.

MEDICAL OBITUARY OF 1871.—Death has, as usual, been very busy in our ranks, and we have had to lament the loss of not a few at an age when we might justly have looked for many years more of good and eminent service from them, and they might have expected to be allowed to reap much more fully and for long the reward of their devotion and labour in the work of their profession. Of such we would here specially mention, with sincere regret, Dr. Hyde Salter, who died at the age of 47; Dr. T. Hawkes Tanner, aged 46; Dr. R. Whitfield Hewlett, aged 32; Dr. James Fawcett (Deputy-Inspector of Gaols, Lombard), who died at 38; Count Cyriac C. Wollowicz, M.D., at 31; and Mr. F. W. Richards, M.B., at 29. Many well-known and highly-valued men have been taken from us at a later age, indeed, but while still in harness, and looking for many more years of usefulness and success, as Dr. J. Addington Symonds, who died at 63; Dr. J. S. Christian, at 57; Mr. Samuel Solly, at 65; Mr. Langston Parker at 65; Dr. W. Daniel Moore, at 58; Dr. Charles Cowdell, at 50; Mr. H. B. Illingworth, at 62; Mr. R. Shipman, at 54; and Mr. J. T. Grantham, at 43. Many, happily, whose deaths we have had to record, and of whom we have given obituary notices, lived to a good old age, and some long beyond the three-score and ten years allotted to man by the Psalmist. Dr. R. Filkin had reached the age of 95; Mr. J. Frowd Spencer was 89; Deputy-Inspector of Hospitals Dr. R. Dunn, Mr. Cornelius Butler, Dr. G. F. D. Evans (Shrewsbury); Sir James Murray, M.D.; Dr. T. Mayo, Mr. John Packman, Dr. Waterfield, Dr. James Low Warren, Mr. Samuel Barton (Manchester), and Dr. James Watson (Glasgow), were all more than 80; and Dr. W. Callender Tidy; Sir John Fife, M.D.; Dr. M. Nisbet (Glasgow); Dr. Patrick Anderson, Dr. de Burgh Birch, Dr. J. D. Anderson (Glasgow); Dr. Charles Bloomfield, Dr. J. England (Ipswich); Dr. H. Dundas, Mr. John White, Mr. J. Lionel Beale, Dr. Cusum, Mr. John Savory, Dr. T. Evanson, Dr. Caleb Williams, Mr. Walter Cooper Dendy, and Mr. P. C. de la Garde were all over seventy years of age. While, on the other hand, we have had to mourn the loss of some who were just showing their talents and worth when struck down by diseases caught in the discharge of their duties—as Dr. Joseph Gedge, chief medical officer to Sir S. Baker's White Nile expedition, at 28; Mr. St. John Wells Lunt, house surgeon to the Windsor Royal Infirmary; Dr. Clements, of the Liverpool Workhouse Infirmary; Dr. Howitt (Dublin), at 25, of typhus; Dr. O. S. Shaw, at 24; and Dr. H. Curran (Dublin), also of typhus; Dr. J. W. Irvine (Liverpool); and Dr. John Davidson, of Middlesex Hospital, of typhoid, at the age of 24.—*Medical Times and Gazette*.



RECEPTION OF THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS OF RUSSIA IN NEW YORK: SCENE IN UNION-SQUARE.

RECEPTION OF THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS OF RUSSIA IN NEW YORK.

OUR American cousins have lately been going into ecstasies over the circumstance that a real live Prince—an Imperial Highness of Russia—was among them. There has long existed a kindly feeling between the United States and Russia—anomalous, apparently, as may be a fast friendship between the two political extremes of despotism and democracy; and advantage was taken of the visit of the Grand Duke Alexis to show how warm that friendship is. The "whole city" of New York is said to have turned out to welcome his Imperial Highness, and the newspapers for several days could think of nothing save recording the details of the ovation and reporting the sayings and doings of the illustrious visitor. From one of the journals we extract the following particulars of the reception:—

"Those who claim that the enthusiasm of the American people is of a strictly effervescent character, and that delays and unpropitious weather subdue the Yankee huzzas, must have been surprised at the heartiness of the welcome extended, on Tuesday, Nov. 21, to H.I.H. the Grand Duke Alexis. Our people had been obliged to repress their manifestations of esteem for the sturdiest friend of the United States and to wait patiently while the Svetlana struggled through the gales off our coast. But when the gallant young Lieutenant stepped on American soil, the congratulations long pent up broke forth in a booming of cannon, waving of flags, and cheering of the multitude more general and heartfelt than ever greeted scion of a Royal stock on these democratic shores. The entire city wore a gala-day appearance. The Russian and American flags waved in harmony from thousands of buildings, while here and there along Broadway were mottoes of

welcome to the representative of our far-away ally. Thousands upon thousands of strangers thronged the city to witness the most liberal reception of aristocracy by a progressive democracy. From the Battery to the Clarendon Hotel, closely packed in buildings and on streets, the voices of 50,000 persons joined in the swell of one grand shout of friendship."

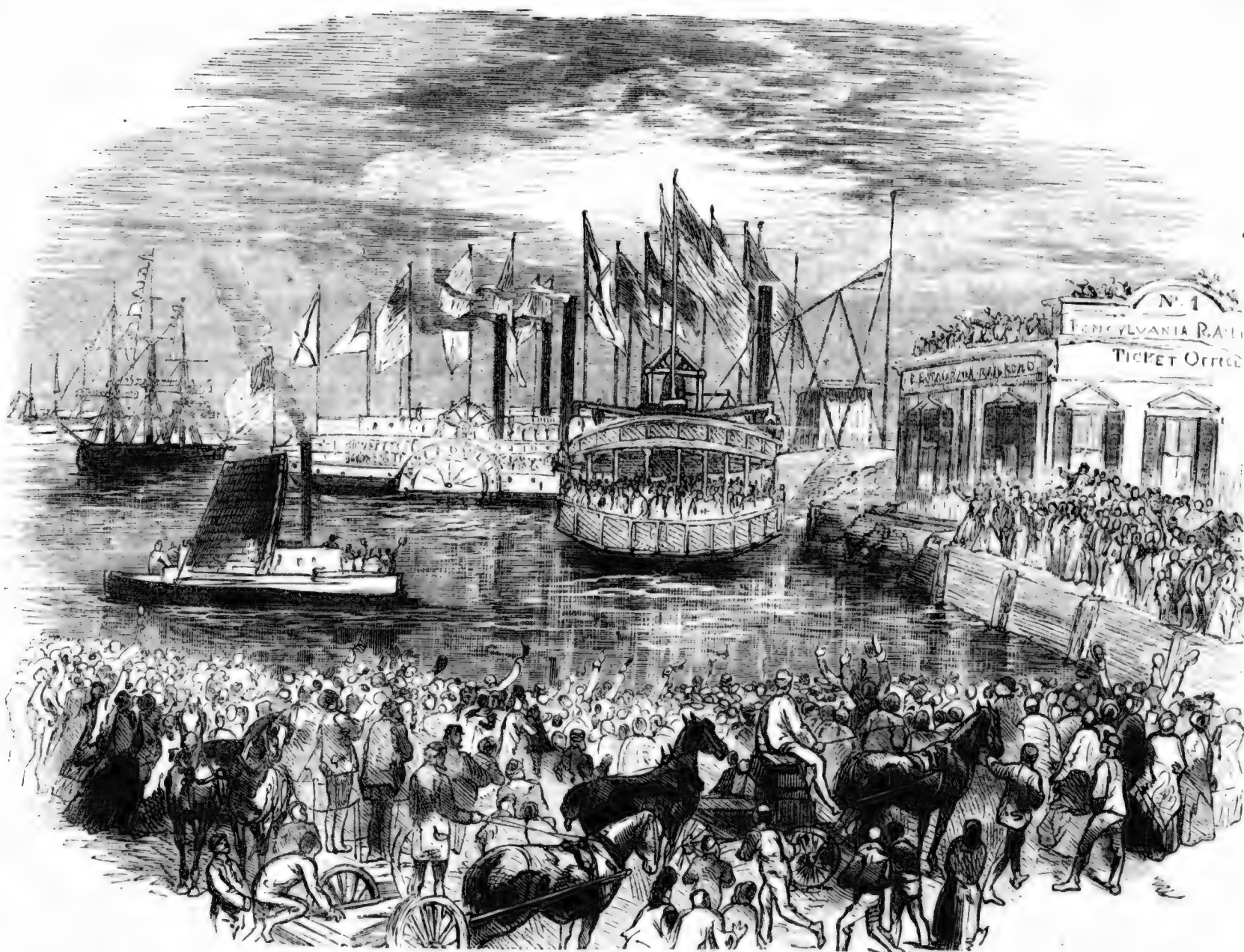
A large party had gone out into the harbour, on board the steam-boat Mary Powell, to escort his Imperial Highness to the Battery Stairs, on ascending which "Major-General John A. Dix, on behalf of the citizens of New York, welcomed the Duke to the United States in an appropriately brief address, to which his Highness responded in a thankful manner."

"As early as 10 a.m. large crowds began to assemble on the Battery and in the vicinity, and by noon the multitude had increased to thousands of people. The pier was handsomely festooned with Russian and American flags. At one o'clock the carriages furnished for the Grand Duke, the Russian naval officers, and members of the Executive Committee of Arrangements, formed in line on the pier, in reverse order, the carriage of the Grand Duke being next the landing. At 1.20 the Mary Powell steamed alongside, and the band immediately struck up the Russian National Hymn; and as the Grand Duke stepped into his carriage, played 'Hail Columbia.' General Shaler and his mounted staff had previously taken up their position at the entrance of the pier, and as the Grand Duke's carriage, drawn by four black horses, wheeled round and passed up the pier, cheers were given by the crowd that thronged Bowling-Green and the Battery."

"The military display was the most creditable one our citizen soldiery have yet made. The line extended from the Battery to

Canal-street, and there were over nine thousand men in the ranks, embracing the First Division N. G. S. N. Y., under command of Major-General Alexander Shaler, and a brigade of New Jersey militia, led by Brigadier-General Plume. The off platoons of police, numbering over one thousand men, were detailed as an escort and for guard duty at the Battery, Union-square, and the Clarendon Hotel. Captain Thorn, with 200 men, was stationed at the Battery and vicinity, and kept back the crowd while the procession was forming."

The composition of the procession that accompanied the Grand Duke to his hotel is given in detail; but that we need not repeat. The report then proceeds to state that "the march up Broadway elicited the loudest applause. At every step the Duke was greeted with demonstrations of respect, and acknowledged the courtesies by raising his chapeau and bowing respectfully. As the Duke's carriage reached Trinity Church the bells chimed forth the National Hymn of Russia, while the bands stationed along this end of the route gave a similar reception salute. On reaching the offices of the Equitable Life Assurance Company, No. 120, Broadway, the Duke's carriage paused, and all eyes were directed towards a huge canvas screen displayed on the façade. At a signal the curtain was withdrawn, revealing an elegant piece of statuary by J. Q. A. Ward. It represents a classical figure of 'Protection' shielding a mother and babe. It was made in Italy, of Carrara marble, and weighs ten tons. The central figure is 12 ft. in height. This massive building was tastefully decorated with bunting. The windows were thronged with young ladies, whose salutations occasioned repeated bows from the Duke. Further up, as the decorations increased in quantity and design, the Duke's hand was kept on a constant move from the lap to the



RECEPTION OF THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS IN NEW YORK: ARRIVAL AT THE LANDING-STAIRS.

chapeau. At No. 245, Broadway, the rooms of the Executive Committee on the Reception, the display of bunting was profuse. The building was literally covered with the flags of both nations, and handkerchiefs waved from every window.

"It was not until the procession had passed Canal-street that it appeared to the best advantage. By that time all the troops had fallen in line, and were on the steady move for the Clarendon Hotel, where the Grand Duke took up his quarters." The scenes presented in Union-square are shown in our Engravings.

The *St. Petersburg Journal* speaks of the extreme satisfaction with which the news of the cordial reception of the Grand Duke Alexis by the American people will be received throughout the Russian Empire. It adds that Russia will not forget that reception, and remarks that the friendly disposition of the two countries is a guarantee of enduring mutual goodwill. The peace of the world and the progress of civilisation cannot but be fostered by the friendly relations between Russia and the United States.

THE NEW FOREIGN CATTLE MARKET.

DEPTFORD Dockyard, dismantled and degraded from its olden service to the Navy, has been converted into a beast market and shambles. It is impossible to record the change without reverting for a moment to some leading points of historical interest which circle about the scene. Here, at the Stone House, King Edward III. frequently resided; here stood, until 1780, Old Trinity House, where King Henry VIII., in the fourth year of his reign, incorporated the Company of the Marines of England; this was the dockyard established by that Sovereign for the better preservation of the Royal Navy, and in which he built his famous ship, the Royal Harry, carrying one hundred brass guns. Here Queen Elizabeth messed on board the Golden Hand, and knighted Sir Francis Drake after his circumnavigation of the globe. From this

yard was launched the Oliver Cromwell, which the Protector adorned with a figurehead of himself mounted on horseback, and holding a laurel wreath above his head, and trampling upon emblems of five nations. In the time of King James I. and King Charles I. the residence of the Warden of the Navy was at Deptford; and this has been the yard where the Royal yachts were built, repaired, fitted, and laid up. Under the huge sheds of "Slips No. 4 and No. 5," henceforth transformed into portions of the covered cattle lairs, the Czar Peter the Great swung his axe and adze, lodging meanwhile in the manor-house of Saye's Court. At that time, and also while the poet Cowley resided here, this was the home of John Evelyn, the celebrated author of "Sylva" and "Terra," whose taste had formed a charming garden upon grounds afterwards added to the dockyard. In fact, the greater portion of Deptford Dockyard has been held by the Admiralty from about the year 1681 down to the sale of a section during last year, under a singular deed of John Evelyn, who, anxious to encourage ship-building, let his property to the Government for a peppercorn rent, on condition that there should always be a ship on the stocks, and that the place should never be surrendered to any private enterprise. During twenty-six years prior to 1843, in which the dockyard was unused, the letter of the lease was complied with by permanently leaving a ship's keel laid down in building-slip No. 1, though in the year 1843 occurred the incident of the proprietor entering the dockyard for non-fulfilment of the conditions, and the Admiralty saving their lease by hastily putting down a keel. Work on the old ships, and in the docks for steam-vessels which had been constructed under an Act of 1837, came to an end in 1869. The last vessel built was the *Spartan*, christened by Princess Louise; and the *Druid*, launched in March, 1869, was the last ship fitted out from the yard. In that month the dockyard was finally closed, the stores being afterwards transferred to the Admiralty Victualling-yard, and the artisans and labourers

partly employed at Portsmouth and Gibraltar, and partly conveyed in her Majesty's ships as emigrants to Canada. Last year that portion forming the site of the present market was sold by the Admiralty to Mr. T. P. Austin by private contract for £70,000, and subsequently transferred to the Corporation of London for £91,500, with a further sum of £3140 paid to the Admiralty for the erection of a gashouse and of a boundary wall separating the area from the Victualling-yard. In selecting this site for a foreign cattle market, forced upon them by Act of Parliament, the Corporation have not specially consulted the interests of the meat trade. The Whitechapel butchers are wellnigh furious against an arrangement which diverts the imported half of the weekly supply of animals to such an out-of-the-way place, approachable only through several miles of narrow and crowded streets; whereas an accessible and convenient position for the market could have been readily secured on the north side of the Thames. Again, there is an entire absence of railway communication; so that there is no possibility of developing a trade between the London waterside market and the midland northern manufacturing towns, though the feasibility and value of such a mode of inland supply was demonstrated by the experience at Odams's Wharf. It remains to be seen whether any tram-line connection can be established along the road leading from the dockyard at the back of the Victualling-yard, and so to a branch of the South-Eastern Railway which runs down to that company's landing-place. The approaches by road are no more worthy of a great city market than are those of Copenhagen fields; but as bullocks and sheep will arrive here by water-carriage, and be taken away as carcases, instead of being first beaten along dirty thoroughfares into the market and then beaten out again, this point is of less consequence than the ill-adapted situation of Deptford for the requirements of the trade. While central situation and ample railway access have made the Smithfield Dead-Meat Market so completely successful that not a

year's rent of a stall has been lost since the opening of the spacious and handsome structure, it is to be feared that the very opposite conditions prevailing at the first may conduce to failure, or, at least, to a great waste of capability. Certainly, a fine chance has presented itself for greatly augmenting the meat supply of the metropolis through the rivalry of two adequate markets. So far as the sanitary question is concerned, we seem to be less wise than were those citizens of London who, in the year 1380, petitioned that butchers might be forced to kill their beasts at Knightsbridge. Even if the bone-boiling and other abominations of Belle Isle do not spring up in the neighbourhood of the new market, it will be almost impossible to prevent subordinate nuisances such as are inseparable from the aggregation of large numbers of animals, and it is feared that there will be speedily at work influences sufficient to baffle the continuous efforts which have been made by Mr. W. J. Evelyn, the benevolent owner of the surrounding property, to promote the health and comfort of the poorer inhabitants of Deptford.

The dockyard, comprising an area of twenty-two acres, of a generally trapezium shape, with a river frontage of 1012 ft., included a tidal basin of an acre and a quarter in extent, with seven "slips," or deep excavations, in which vessels were built, these being covered by four great sheds, and nearly half the remainder of the area was occupied by ranges of buildings, houses, yards, and gardens. The object of the City Markets Committee was not to clear this space and then erect such a handsome and complete market as should throw into the shade the accommodation at Islington, and equal the design which has transformed and adorned Smithfield, but merely to construct a market, "in such a manner," says the Markets Committee's report, "as appeared to be sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act." The officers of the Privy Council obliged the committee to provide a considerably greater extent of accommodation than the committee itself originally projected, and the Corporation having let slip a very large portion of the whole period allowed them for the work by the Act of 1869, the only plan available was to utilise the ship-building sheds, supplement them by rapidly-constructed buildings with little brickwork, and convert some of the substantial and roomy stores or workshops into slaughter-houses. The admirable arrangements by which all this has been carried out were designed by Mr. Horace Jones, F.R.S.E., the City Architect, who designed the Smithfield Dead-Meat Market, and the new library and museum, the new roof, and other important improvements at the Guildhall. In July last operations commenced by the demolition of certain buildings, and by filling up the slips—principally with the earth and rubbish excavated from the site of the new Law Courts, and partly with mud dredged from the river bed for the purpose. The conversion and erection of buildings was hardly commenced till September, and the heaviest part of the work was the transformation of the Admiralty store-houses into slaughter-shops. By connecting together the three great sheds around the dock basin the architect has formed the principal roofed-in area, in ground plan of a pentagonal horse-shoe form, with the basin in the middle, and the side next the river left uncovered. From the two ends of this horse-shoe range of lairs, two separate piers or landing-stages, 350 ft. apart, project into the river; and a third landing-stage, 400 ft. further east, is provided for a long shed, which stands apart from the other lairs. Each pier, consisting of timber-work of a very strong and superior character, projects 172 ft. from the frontage, terminating in a transverse stage 95 ft. in length, flanked by dolphin piers; and upper and lower fixed platforms, one 14 ft. above the other, are being constructed for unloading at high or low tide. At low tide there is a depth of 12 ft. or 13 ft. of water, so that steam-vessels can lie alongside the pier-head to discharge cargo at any state of the river, and three vessels may be unloading simultaneously. Should disease appear in any of the cargoes, one pier, or two, out of the three may be kept disinfected. Cattle and sheep will walk off the ship along a gangway, just as passengers pass off a river steam-boat; and Mr. Philcox, the clerk of the market, has contrived an arrangement of gates and of removable posts and chains for receiving the animals at any part of the stage front and preventing accidents. A traversing steam-crane, with a jib projecting 35 ft., will land in a sling any animal unable to make his own exit from the ship. Close by the shore-end of each pier is a house for the immediate slaughter and melting down of any animals condemned as unfit for human food; an excellent arrangement being contrived for hoisting each carcass, lowering it into a strong iron cylinder, something like a steam-boiler set on end, and digesting it by means of steam of a high pressure. Animals not condemned by the inspectors will pass into the covered lairs or pens; and the horse-shoe range of sheds is divided, by two brick walls, into four large compartments, for the better separation of healthy and suspected cargoes. The shed-roofs of the "slips," some 80 ft. or 90 ft. in height to the ridge, were open at the sides; but these have been converted into houses, by side inclosures of wood framing, the lower portion boarded, the upper part glazed, with a large aggregate area of opening panes and of glass louvres inserted for ventilation. The pens are paved with brick on edge, and the roadways, of 20 ft. breadth, passing down the centre of each building are of granite pitching. The new roofs uniting together the slip-sheds are of wood and slate, carried upon iron pillars, and are about 15 ft. in height. In one place have been fitted up a few iron pens, constructed of iron stanchions and round bars, while some sheep-pens, with opening and shutting hay-racks, testify to the ingenuity of Mr. Rudkin, their designer. But nearly all the cattle and sheep pens are constructed of stout oak posts and bars, two different varieties of headstall for feeding and watering having been contrived according to the practical knowledge of Mr. Rudkin and Mr. Brewster, two active members of the City Markets Committee. Water-troughs of wood, connected together by short lengths of pipe, are fitted in most of the cattle-pens; but some have smaller troughs of iron, and water is turned on by a cock at the end of each row of headstalls, the cast-iron water mains being filled by the Kent Waterworks Company from their artesian wells. Iron hay-racks are hoisted in the sheep-pens. Each lair is well lighted at night by gas standards. The cattle pens are 24 ft. wide, and 60 ft. to 90 ft. long, according to the breadth of the building; the pens running transversely from the central roadway to the side wall, while 6 ft.-broad passages divide pen from pen. Each sheep pen measures 27 ft. in length by 10 ft. wide, the fences consisting of wooden uprights, with iron round bar rails; and small iron drinking-troughs are placed upon the ground and connected by pipes, so that water flows from one to another.

By a rough estimate there must be more than 5½ acres of these lairs under cover; and the exact calculation, from the number of pens, is that, with an allowance of 30 square feet per beast, there is accommodation for 4000; or, allowing 22 square feet per beast, there is a space for 5300. At 5 square feet for sheep, there are pens for 11,500; or, at 4 square feet for sheep, there are pens for 14,500. This is about double the extent of cattle lairage under cover, and four times the sheep lairage under cover which existed at Odams's Wharf. As a test of the sufficiency of this house accommodation, take the maximum importation arriving in readiness for a Monday market; this occurred on Oct. 15, 1865, when 4074 beasts, 171 calves, 426 pigs, and 14,500 sheep arrived in London from Harwich in the course of a Saturday and Sunday. It would appear, therefore, that the Deptford market is capable of warmly housing, feeding, and watering any number of foreign cargoes likely to arrive for any one market day. The animals will be sold alive in their pens, and then butchered in the abattoir.

These ranges of fine slaughter-shops have been for need of the arsenal and store-rooms, a quadrangular pile of brick buildings standing midway between the two blocks of lairage shedding, and intended for a very different use when they were erected in the last century, around the remains of an old monastery, which still stands, bearing the date A.D. 1513. The cattle slaughter-houses occupy two parallel rows, with a court between, each row being divided into ten shops, of which the dimensions are 43 ft. in length

by 23 ft. in breadth, and each of these shops is parted into two bays by iron pillars supporting trussed girders. The internal height is about 22 ft. The partitions are of wood, the lower portion closed, the upper part consisting of open upright wood rails. The floor is asphalted, except that about one third of the slaughtering end is paved with large flag-stones. A wooden pound outside the entrance receives each beast till his turn comes for the pole-axe. And here come in some remarkably ingenious arrangements for facilitating the butcher's operations and the disposal of the carcass. The bullock, knocked down and bled to death, is to be hoisted up on a wrought-iron "cross-tree," which serves in turn for all the bullocks killed in that way. After being flayed and deprived of entrails and offal, the carcass will be hung by the embrids to a couple of hooks, which can traverse a pair of suspended rails or iron bars, and is thus made to pass easily to the exit end of the slaughter-shop. When "set" and cut into sides of beef, each side will be still supported until purposely lowered into the salesman's van backed in at the doorway for the purpose. The hoisting is effected by a crab or winch turned by hand; and for the traversing and lowering of the meat are provided simple arrangements of chains and pulleys, of which the action cannot be well described without a diagram. There are six separate slaughter-houses for sheep—namely, three measuring 42 ft. by 24 ft. each, and three measuring 28 ft. by 24 ft. each; and, as 300 to 450 sheep can be hung up in one house, this amounts to an accommodation for killing 2200 sheep without removal. At Odams's Wharf four sheep slaughter-houses, each of 50 ft. by 15 ft., were found sufficient for the killing of 3500 sheep per day. At that wharf were also eleven cattle slaughter-houses, consisting of three measuring 60 ft. by 30 ft. each, and eight measuring 50 ft. by 16 ft. each, in which were sometimes butchered as many as 700 beasts per day. And if this space of 11,800 square feet in eleven shops was capable of such a rate of performance, the Deptford space of 19,700 square feet in twenty shops ought to permit of many more cattle being slaughtered in the same time. The maximum rate of slaughtering 700 bullocks and 3500 sheep in a day at Odams's Wharf would not have been found quite sufficient for emergencies which may occur, such as very hot weather, the detention of vessels by fog or by stormy weather, or a glut attracted by a sudden rise in prices. Hence it appears that ample accommodation for both buying and butchering is provided at the Deptford market; and, indeed, the smaller fittings, such as the "crutch" and the "fat-tray," are now in perfect readiness for use. Every arrangement for drainage, cleansing, and ventilation has been carefully attended to, and a long line of marine barracks and workshops has been furnished with stables and vans for use by the salesmen and butchers, with stores for hay, offices, &c.; while a tavern and coffee-house, with a limited number of beds, have not been forgotten.—*Times*.

NEW MUSIC.

Beautiful Danube. Galop. By JOHANN STRAUSS. A. Hammond and Co.

The name of Strauss will be accepted as sufficient recommendation for this galop. On its merits, however, the piece is worth attention. Its grace and vigour, as well as its adaptability to the general run of performers, are indisputable.

The Wide-Awake Quadrilles. Composed for the Pianoforte by C. MARRIOTT. R. Cocks and Co.

Mr. Marriott has here produced a set of quadrilles thoroughly *dansante*. Their themes are agreeable, and the music presents no difficulty to an average player. On the titlepage is a portrait of a Maltese terrier, very much alert.

God Save the Queen. God Bless the Prince of Wales. God Bless our Sailor Prince. God Bless the Prince of Wales. Arranged for the Pianoforte by BRINLEY RICHARDS. R. Cocks and Co.

The first three of these loyal pieces are published in the cheapest possible form, so as to be used where large numbers of copies have to be supplied. There is nothing new to say about them; and, as regards the fourth, Mr. Richards's transcription of his now famous air, it will suffice to point out that he has refrained from overloading the theme with ornament.

Our Noble Prince, Thank God, is Spared! Thanksgiving Song. Written and composed by LOUIS EMANUEL JEFFERYS.

This is another loyal effusion, suggested by the happy recovery of the Heir Apparent, which will be popular, we suppose, for a season. At all events, it has received grateful acknowledgment from the parties most immediately interested in the event it celebrates—Her Majesty and the Princess of Wales.

Slumber Song for Voice and Piano. Composed by CONSTANTINE BURGEL. A. Hammond and Co.

A somewhat ambitious movement, andantino, in C major, the melody given chiefly to the violin, with arpeggio accompaniment for piano. There is a tendency to abrupt transitions into remote keys, against which M. Burgel will do well if he guard himself. Otherwise we have nothing but commendation for the piece. It is well written, pleasing, and not so difficult as to be unfitted for amateurs. Works of the sort are becoming more and more necessary now that the home use of other instruments than the piano is spreading fast.

The Heavenly Tear. Adapted to English words by Miss Macfarren; music composed by JULIUS STERN. A. Hammond and Co.

The idea of this song is truly poetical, and Miss Macfarren has given it expression in good English verse. Herr Stern's music has the merit of being appropriate and pleasing, while the accompaniment is studiously made easy. Amateurs may turn their attention to the song with profit. The key is E major—highest note E.

Witches' Dance, for the Pianoforte. Composed by BERTHOLD TOURS. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

We have here some light and characteristic music, in D major, with just a tinge of what passes current as the supernatural element in composition. The piece, though very animated, is not difficult, all the passages lying well under the hand. It deserves a share of the patronage bestowed upon the class of works to which it belongs.

May Day. A Cantata. Written by John Oxenford; composed by G. A. MACFAHREN. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

"May Day" is no longer "new music," having been heard all England over; but we may, nevertheless, call attention to it here as appearing in a new, handsome, and cheap form. Few who have sympathy with "good old English ways," or love for music animated by the good old English spirit, will fail to possess themselves of a work which eminently reflects both.

Novello's Part-Song Book. Vol. VI. and VII. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

These volumes are wholly devoted to music from the pen of Mr. J. L. Hatton. In vol. vi. we have a collection of thirty-five pieces for mixed voices, including new arrangements of old favourites, which originally were written for male voices alone. In vol. vii. are twenty-four male-voice compositions; and with regard to these it will be enough if we mention that they include such pleasant acquaintances as the "Tur's Song," "Beware," "Jack Frost," and "Star of the Summer Night." Both volumes will find a hearty welcome among societies for the practice of vocal concerted music.

AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR PRESERVING PEACE.

MR. J. STUART MILL, in his "Representative Government," says of the United States, "The tribunals which act as umpires between the Federal and State Governments naturally also decide all disputes between two States. The usual remedies between nations—war and diplomacy—being precluded by the Federal Union, it is necessary that a judicial remedy should supply their place. The 'Supreme Court' of the Federation dispenses international law, and is the first great example of what is now one of the most prominent wants of civilised society—a real international tribunal." The force of the decisions of such a tribunal would be mainly or wholly that of moral power. It is not to be assumed that this power would absolutely render wars impossible, or succeed in reconciling all cases of international dispute; but it would go very far in that direction. It would be an infinite gain over the existing system of brute force; and it would prevent wars at least, if not all. Some able writers—as, for example, Professor Seeley and Mr. Frederick Seebohm—have advocated "the ultimate sanction of international law is physical force," and that the representative Court of Jurists must have power to enforce their verdicts by the collective armies of the united nations in whose name they may speak. But not so. As long as armies are to be sanctioned at all, it may be that the present system, bad as it is, is a less evil than the possible contingency of the brute force of a family of nations, who might happen to be in the wrong, being united to crush one or more individual nations who might happen to be in the right. Truth often resides with the small minority; and even a majority of nations might be wrong. But the tyranny of a majority, or of a mob, whether it be a mob of nations, a Ku-Klux mob, or a Paris revolutionary mob, is apt to be the very worst of tyrannies. Therefore, the final power of an International Tribunal must be one of law—of law and of moral force alone. And such a force would truly be a mighty one. The imperfect example of the Trent case* showed that even amid the most excited passions there was great weight attached to the quiet, dignified, collective verdict of the nations when peacefully offered. It is precisely upon the peacefulness of the verdict that its influence would largely depend; for it is evident that, in many cases, the threat of armed compulsion, however delicately and distantly hinted, would make a high-spirited nation prejudiced from the outset against the verdict tendered with such an alternative in case of non-compliance.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

The following article appears in the *Temps* of Tuesday:—

"We may be excused from taking any glance backwards over the disasters which have marked with an ever-enduring sign of mourning in the history of France the year which has just passed away. Those recollections are sorrows, which it seems to us more dignified and more salutary to bury within one's own mind, or to refer to them only to derive from them the inspiration of manly resolutions. There is something which is worse than the levity which forgets—the levity which makes use of the misfortunes of the country for the sake of rhetoric or mere loquacity. Alas! it makes one tremble to find how few traces our misfortunes have left in many minds. It did at one time appear as though the nation would henceforth be united in a sentiment of common liability for the faults committed, and of zeal to prepare for better destinies, and that individual ambition and party rivalries would be subordinated to the sacred cause of national restoration. But that noble ardour endured only for a few weeks. Who now thinks about the ransom we have still to pay? Who recalls that the enemy still occupies a portion of our territory? Only yesterday the conqueror made us taste once more the bitterness of our defeat by an insulting despatch. Can it be said that this new humiliation has led us to become somewhat more like what we should be? We have no desire to ignore what has been done in the course of the last year to repair the evils caused by the foreign and the civil wars. It would be singularly unjust towards the Assembly and the Government to forget the heaviness of the task which was imposed upon them and the devotion with which they have applied themselves to its accomplishment. The country has reconstituted a regular Government, reorganised its army, met its engagements, and the close of that lamentable year 1871 leaves France once more settled in the proper position of a great people applying itself to labour with that courageous industry which is its characteristic. But what has been done is but a trifle as compared with what remains to be done. The great danger at this moment is that the country and the Assembly which represents it may regard their task as limited to a simple restoration of affairs. There is a risk that they may conceive that they will have done everything when they shall more or less have brought things to the point of apparent prosperity at which they stood before the war. If this idea should prevail in the end, then the fate of France will be sealed. It is not a question of again becoming the France of former times—not that of 1815, nor of 1830, nor of 1851, and we will add no more that of '89 or '92 than of 1848. The question is, whether we shall sincerely enter upon the course prescribed by new necessities and of practical measures; it is a question whether we will frankly accept the conditions of modern society. If in religion, in finance, in industry, in military organisation we find nothing better than to return to our conscription, our tariffs, our university and scholastic systems, to our devotion to Mary, to all that superannuated, out-of-date, childish civilisation, we have, indeed, the right to do so, but at the same time we shall proclaim our incapacity to renew ourselves. Now, a nation, like an individual, lives only upon condition of continual change; the progress consists in getting rid of old things to adopt new ones. There is, we must say, a cause for uneasiness. We have before us as a Government an assemblage of honest and capable men such as the country has not seen for a long time conducting its affairs. At the head of this Government is an extraordinary statesman, who has had the honour at an advanced age to render to France such services as few citizens have ever been called upon to render to their country. History will pay to M. Thiers the debt of gratitude which party passions too often at present ignore. History will also, we believe, be more just towards the Assembly than contemporary opinion shows itself. Placed at a distance, it will perceive that the Assembly has shown substantially wisdom, patriotism, and a desire for liberty. But while admitting all this, the fact remains none the less, that whether it be the fault of the Government or of the Assembly, there is still wanting in the direction of affairs and the guidance of the public mind some breath of innovation and of boldness. There may be good intentions and love of country, that may readily be admitted; but we have not seen that vivacity of conception, that ardent emulation which urges other nations upon unexplored paths. We know not how to represent the future under other forms than those of the past. We dread the unknown. France, with all its revolutions, remains bound to routine. It has been our misfortune that innovation should only be represented among us by Radicalism. But Radicalism is only the semblance of progress. It is but a kind of routine, one which never can extricate itself from the traditional, ritual, theatrical, and demagogic—of our earlier revolutions. It has nothing in its programme. When it has attained to power it has only succeeded in provoking reaction by alarming the people. Radicalism is but a violent method of dealing with politics. But

* In 1861 an officer of the Federal Government, acting on a Lynch-Bell impulse, transgressed the law of nations by forcibly taking the two Confederate Ambassadors, Messrs. Eliott and Mason, from a British mail steamer—the Trent. Almost immediately and spontaneously the chief Courts of Europe communicated to the Washington Government their verdict that this act was contrary to international equity. And this simple "collective opinion" definitely and unitedly expressed, greatly influenced the Federal authorities in arriving at their conclusion to surrender the two captives. In like manner, it may be confidently expected, a systematic utterance of the "collective opinion" of the family of nations, or of the chief of them, especially when given forth by a representative body of their best jurists or most intelligent men, would largely restrain war.

if violence can only aggravate our misfortunes, it is still true that we stand in need of great changes. And there, we repeat, is the danger for France at this moment. France fluds itself in a crisis of development, and the question for it to consider is whether it will resume its place among nations, or whether it will fall in arrears among the slugs in the career which, in these times, impels progressive nations towards unknown destinies."

The *Patrie*, in its review of 1871, describes the year which has just elapsed as the gloomiest which any Frenchman living has passed through. During those twelve months of anxiety and humiliation no trace can be found, it maintains, of a single really consoling day. To find an equally mournful period in the history of France it would be necessary to go back to the darkest times of the fifteenth century. In the opinion of the *Patrie*, the saddest reflection is that, after losing military superiority, territory, and civic honour, a still more valuable thing has been lost—viz., the opportunity of national regeneration. Two occasions offered—the fall of Gambetta and the meeting of the Bordeaux Assembly. France should have finished with the revolution; but, no, she trusted to M. Thiers and his expedients, and now Gambetta is again coming to the front, and the Germans only await his restoration to undertake their second invasion.

HOMELESS CHILDREN.

WEDNESDAY was a great day for the boys and girls received in the training-ship *Chichester*, the Farm School, and the refugees in town. In the first place they had a good dinner of roast meat and plum-pudding, at the Boys' Refuge, in Great Queen-street; and immediately afterwards the most deserving of them received from the hands of the Lord Mayor, in the Freemasons' Hall opposite, the prizes which had been awarded to them for their good conduct.

The boys from the *Chichester* were brought to town early in the day, and, headed by their band, paraded most of the principal streets of the West-end. Their dress naturally induced many of the spectators to associate them with the Navy, nor was the association altogether an erroneous one, as many of these youths, picked up in the streets of London, or in sheer despair seeking a refuge in the homes of the society, have, after proper training and discipline, passed into her Majesty's service. The boys from Bisley—the Farm School, as it is officially and appropriately denominated—who are clad in a more military fashion, were also brought to town, and, uniting with the inmates of the London home, who are clad in more absolutely civilian attire, joined their sisters in misfortune and relief at dinner at one o'clock. The dinner was, as those provided at the house in Great Queen-street—not the Freemasons' Tavern, but the cobbler's shop opposite—always are, a plain but excellent one. As many slices of good roast beef and browned potatoes; as much good, solid plum-pudding—rich, too, with its solidness—as you can eat, and what more can any once destitute boy or girl desire? Certainly nothing more was required by any of the youngsters, varying in age from about five to fifteen or sixteen, who were present at the banquet on Wednesday. And when the move was made from the dining-room on the north to the drawing-room on the south side of Queen-street there was certainly no unsatisfied appetite and no dissatisfied minds among either boys or girls.

The proceedings in the "Drawing-room," as we have ventured to name, "for this occasion only," the Freemasons' Hall, were of a business rather than merely a social character. When the 630 children who had been the guests of the afternoon were seated, the Lord Mayor entered the room, accompanied by several of the friends and patrons of the institutions interested in the proceedings of the day. As soon as his Lordship had taken the chair, the children sang "God Bless the Prince of Wales." Then Mr. Williams, the earnest and indefatigable secretary of the association, read a statement of the results of the society's operations since it was established twenty-nine years ago, with an income of £180 a year, and more especially during the past year, showing that from so small a beginning there had arisen five day and night and ragged schools, four homes, and the training-ship in which more than 600 boys and girls were being educated. Unfortunately the last year's income was £2000 short of that of 1870, and so far the resources of the institution had been crippled. At the same time £3000 was specially required to enable the committee to remove the girls' home from Broad-street to a house which they had purchased at Sudbury, near Harrow, and to provide accommodation for forty more destitute girls. And this sum it was proposed to raise from the public as a thank-offering for the recovery of the Prince of Wales. When Mr. Williams had concluded his statement, the Lord Mayor proceeded to the distribution of the prizes—medals, books, workboxes, and desks—to the boys and girls in the schools or the training-ship, and to the young women who, having left the school, have for from one to five years acted as domestic servants with credit to themselves and satisfaction to their employers. As he delivered to each the reward of his or her good conduct, his Lordship said a few words of approval and appreciation; and it was pleasant to notice the modest but unassuming air with which the lads who had travelled half over the globe, and young women who are acting as cooks or nursery-maids at Highbury or Brixton, received the silver medal or bright-covered works which were presented to them as the reward of their well-doing. The sailors seemed to be especially popular with the spectators; but the servant-girls, with their plain dresses and neat caps, were also warmly applauded by the lads and lasses in semi-military uniforms or brown frocks and holland pinafores, who almost filled the hall, as well as by the ladies and gentlemen, of whom there were not a few who had come to witness the proceedings. The prizes having been distributed, Mr. W. Fitzwilliam moved, and Capt. Mackenzie seconded, a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, which was carried by acclamation, the speaker mentioning that letters of apology for their absence had been received from the Marquis Hamilton, who was in attendance upon the Prince of Wales; and Mr. Scudamore, who had promised to assist the committee in the formation of a telegraphic class; as well as from Colonel Duplat Taylor, who had received into the offices of

the East and West India Dock Company one of their boys as a telegraphic clerk, at a salary of £30 a year. The Lord Mayor briefly thanked the company for the compliment which had been paid him, expressing his high estimation of the good which was being produced by this association, and his appreciation of the services rendered by the committee and teachers; and the proceedings closed with the singing of the first verse of the National Anthem.

A GROUP OF ENOCH ARDENS.

ABOUT eight years ago, during the cotton famine, a man named George Byrom left Oldham to seek a livelihood in America, leaving a wife and child behind. Upon his arrival in America he opened a correspondence with his wife, which, however, he shortly after broke off; and, nothing being heard of him for some time, it was thought he was dead. Last week, however, he returned, laden with presents for his wife and child, who he anticipated would be ready to receive him with open arms. To his chagrin, he found she had remarried, and was the mother of three children by her second husband. At first she refused to recognise her former husband. The three subsequently met, talked the matter over in a "business-like manner," and agreed that the woman should stay with her second husband, and the first husband should have his child.

An event which lately happened in Missouri is thus related by the *Cincinnati Enquirer*:—"A one-armed horseman, lately traveling through Missouri, stopped at a blacksmith's shop in Cedar City to have his horse shod. The smith noticed his empty sleeve, and asked him if he had lost his arm in the war. He replied with a sigh that he had, and added with much emotion that on going back to his home at the close of the war he found that his wife, who thought he was dead, had moved away, and he had since been unable to obtain a trace of her. 'What is your name?' asked the blacksmith. 'J. M. Waldrup,' was the reply. The smith suddenly released the hoof of the horse, over which he had been bending, and, without looking at the ex-soldier, cried, 'Follow me into the house,' and hurriedly led the way. Waldrup mechanically obeyed the unexpected bidding, and was ushered into the presence of a comely matron, about whose sewing chair three happy children were playing. She was the blacksmith's wife, the mother of his little ones, and rose to greet the stranger on his appearance with her husband at the door. No sooner, however, did she catch sight of his face than she uttered a heartrending shriek and fainted. In Waldrup she recognised her husband. In the firm belief that he had been killed in the war she had married the blacksmith of Cedar City, and was already the mother of three fine children. After the first agitation of the assembled group had subsided, Waldrup and the smith retired to the smithy to talk the matter over. Devotedly as the smith loved his wife, he fully admitted Waldrup's superior claims, and it was in the end agreed that she herself should decide between them. They accordingly returned to the sitting-room, where, after a torrent of tears and self-reproaches, the wife came to the conclusion that she ought to return to her first husband. Suddenly dropping her head, however, on the blacksmith's shoulder, she declared with bitter lamentations that she could not leave her children. The smith 'eyed her wistfully' for a moment, and then said, in a husky voice, 'You shall take them, my dear.' Some hours later, when the steamboat *St. Luke* stopped at the landing, Waldrup went on board with 'his thickly-veiled and still weeping wife,' and the blacksmith followed, leading the children. The boat's bell rang for the starting. The dread moment of separation was at hand. The captain, the crew, and the passengers were affected to tears at the touching scene. 'With great drops rolling down his tawny cheeks,' the smith kissed the children one after the other, and bade the mother an eternal good-by. He then shook hands long and earnestly with Waldrup, and walked quietly to the shore. He never turned his face towards the boat, which soon passed out of sight, but strode on with head bowed down to the home where the voice of his wife and children would welcome him no more. Let us hope that his grief was sincere."

Some two months ago a man named Goddard, who had been employed for some years at Guy's Hospital, but who had recently left that establishment, was missing, and no clue being discovered, it was feared that something untoward had happened to him. A short time after the body of a man was found in the Thames at Battersea, which was identified by Mrs. Goddard, without hesitation, as that of her husband. A verdict of "Found drowned" was returned, and the body was followed to the grave by the wife, who has, of course, ever since worn widow's weeds. On Saturday last, however, Goddard returned to his former home and was recognised by his astonished wife. He stated that, being unable to get employment, he went to Brighton, where he had been working ever since. The body supposed to have been his was that of some one else. Goddard has also been recognised by some of his former fellow workmen.

OBITUARY.

LORD KENSINGTON.—On Monday afternoon Lord Kensington died, at Sandhill Park, near Taunton, Somerset, from an attack of bronchitis. The late William Edwardes, third Baron Kensington, born at St. Ubes, near Lisbon, in 1801, was the eldest surviving son of William, second Lord, by his wife Dorothea Patricia, daughter of Mr. Richard Thomas. He was educated at Eton, and afterwards entered the Navy, in 1814, on board the *Bellerophon*, flag-ship of Sir Richard Goodwin Keates. He was appointed, in 1826, to the flag-ship of Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, and took part in the battle of Navarino, and for his gallant conduct on that occasion was invested with the command of the *Gannet*. He went on the retired list, as a Captain in the Royal Navy, in 1856. In 1861 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Pembrokeshire. The late Lord, who succeeded his father in August, 1852, married (Oct. 12, 1833) Laura Jane (who died in 1846), fourth daughter of Mr. Cuthbert Ellison, of Hepburn, Durham, and by whom he had a family of two sons and five daughters. The eldest son, Colonel the Hon. William Edwardes, M.P. for Haverfordwest, succeeds to the title. He was

born in May, 1835, and married, in 1867, Grace Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Robert Johnstone Douglas, of Lockerbie. He was educated at Eton, and was for some years in the Coldstream Guards, from which regiment he retired, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, in 1867. After being appointed a Vice-Lieutenant of Pembrokeshire in 1862, he was returned, at the general election in 1868, the representative in the House of Commons for Haverfordwest.

ARCHDEACON PRATT.—The death is announced of the Venerable John Henry Pratt, M.A., Archdeacon of Calcutta. He was educated at Caius College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1833, when he was Third Wrangler, the Masters of Christ's and Sidney Sussex Colleges being also Wranglers. In 1838 he was appointed to a chaplaincy in connection with the East India Company, and in '50 was nominated to the Archdeaconry of Calcutta, which he held up to the time of his death. He was the author of "Mathematical Principles of Mechanical Philosophy," "Scripture and Science not at Variance," and some other works.

THE REV. DR. DIXON.—The Rev. James Dixon, D.D., an eminent Wesleyan minister, died on Thursday se'night, at his residence, Wellesley-terrace, Bunningham, at the age of eighty-three. With the exception of the Rev. Thomas Jackson, he was the oldest minister in the Wesleyan Society. He was widely known as the author of several theological and biographical works. He was, some years ago, the President of the Wesleyan Conference. He was a representative of the Conference on one occasion in a visit to the United States. He was a prominent and influential leader in Conference, and the earnest promoter of its various mission schemes. He began his mission life at Gibraltar in 1812, and, returning home after a brief interval, he continued to labour as an energetic and untiring minister on circuit in various parts of England for the long period of nearly sixty years. He was an able and eloquent preacher, and was exceedingly effective as a platform speaker. He had resided in Bradford during the last twelve years, and had continued his pulpit ministrations to a very recent period. He had lost his sight some years ago, and was popularly known as "the blind preacher." In the pulpit he had a most patriarchal and venerable appearance, and was often compared in this respect to Wesley. His mental faculties remained unimpaired to the last moments of his life. His loss will be deeply regretted throughout the Wesleyan Society.

A POISONING CASE IN MARYLAND.—The trial of Mrs. Wharton, at Annapolis, began on Dec. 4, excites much interest in the United States, and is likely to be of great length. Mrs. Wharton, the widow of Major H. Wharton, of the United States army, is charged with the murder, by poison, of General Ketchum, a retired officer of the Quartermaster-General's department. The two families, the Whartons and the Ketchums, were on terms of intimacy, and General Ketchum had lent Mrs. Wharton 2600 dollars, for which she gave him her promissory note, paying the interest half-yearly. According to the case for the prosecution, General Ketchum, in June last, went to visit her at her house in Baltimore, taking (as is believed) the note with him, in order that he might receive the amount lent to her, as she intended to go to Europe, and he might want the money before her return, or, as he said to his son, might never see her again, she being in delicate health. He had not been long at her house before he was taken ill, and in four days he died. The symptoms led the physician to suspect that poison had been taken; and the indictment is described as charging poisoning by tartar emetic, by yellow jasmine, or by some poison unknown. The physician first prescribed crocote, afterwards yellow jasmine, and later (on using a catheter) had occasion to give chloroform, followed by chloral. Mrs. Wharton purchased tartar emetic while General Ketchum was at her house, and used that drug at night (in the presence of one of the witnesses for the prosecution) for a plaster which she applied to her chest. She was frequently with General Ketchum during his illness. There was evidence tending to show that she administered an overdose of medicine, and that it had a different appearance from that made up from the prescription and produced in court, the one being cloudy and the other clear. The post-mortem examination developed no natural cause of death; tartar emetic was found. A witness, deposing to General Ketchum's condition while ill, stated that he said he was getting better, but had been quite ill; that Mrs. Wharton had poisoned him in a glass of lemonade. The prisoner's counsel objected to this "jocular remark" being given in evidence; it does not appear that it was made in Mrs. Wharton's presence; the statement is described as unexpected, and it was expunged. The deputy marshal of police deposes that after General Ketchum's death he told Mrs. Wharton that she ought not to think of leaving for Europe until the affair was cleared up; she thanked him for all the information he had given her in the case, and requested his acceptance of a 20-dollar note; but he declined it, saying he could not take presents. When the General's clothes were packed up, to be sent to his house after his death, his vest could not be found. On inquiry, Mrs. Wharton said it was in her war robe, and it was found there. Her promissory note for 2600 dollars, cannot be found. She alleges that she paid it off some months before, and then destroyed it. She also claims that General Ketchum is in her debt; that she handed to him four Five-Twenty Bonds for 1000 dollars, each, to be sold by him and converted into other bonds. There were no witnesses to either of these transactions; and it is stated that there is no trace of either in General Ketchum's books, which were kept with minuteness. There is another indictment for attempting to poison Mr. van Nees, a bank clerk, who had transacted financial affairs for Mrs. Wharton, and who called at her house when the General was staying there.

THE THAMES POLICE.—This force now comprises one superintendent, 29 inspectors, and 111 constables, or a total strength of 141 men. The range of duty is limited above by Chelsea Bridge and below by Barking Creek, and the river is divided, for purposes of surveillance, into three districts. The first extends from Chelsea Bridge

to London Bridge, and has as its head-quarters the Royalist, now moored off the Temple. The middle and most important district is situated between London Bridge and Greenwich Hospital, and has its station at the edge of the river, in 255, High-street, Wapping. The third district ranges from Greenwich to Barking Creek, and has as its station the *Scorpion*, which is anchored off Folly-wall, near Blackwall. The upper district has 6 inspectors and 27 constables; the middle district, 19 inspectors and 66 constables; and the lower district, 4 inspectors and 17 constables. There are from sixteen to twenty ordinary "duty" boats, each being manned by an inspector and two or three constables; and the inspections are carried on day and night by reliefs every five or six hours, the boats being kept constantly moving in their respective districts. The legal jurisdiction of the force extends to the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Essex, and the city of London and its Liberties, and exists in and on all creeks and inlets of the river, as well as the adjacent wharves, docks, and quays. The duties of this body of police consist mainly in the protection of merchandise in ships, and on barges, boats, and waterside premises, and keeping the river clear of known thieves. They also prevent crimps from boarding newly-arrived ships, assist the officers of the Thames Conservancy in preventing sailors and others from throwing rubbish into the channel, give prompt notice of fires on the river to the floating brigades, enforce the regulations for the conveyance and safe custody of gunpowder and other combustible or explosive materials, and assist in carrying out the provisions of the Smoke Nuisance Abatement Act. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade has four floating engines on the Thames, situated respectively at Millbank, Westminster, Bankside, Southwark, Platform, Rotherhithe, and off Limehouse. There is also an engine stationed off Woolwich belonging to the Royal Dockyard. The Thames police force was established in 1798, chiefly by the exertions of Mr. Colquhoun and a committee of West India merchants, and the force was embodied with the Metropolitan police in 1839. The depredations committed on the Thames before the establishment of the police were estimated by Mr. Colquhoun at ten millions sterling, between 10,000 and 11,000 persons being concerned in various modes of robbery on the river. These thieves were classified as heavy horsemen, light horsemen, mud-larks, rat-catchers, scuffle-hunters, &c., all of whom were in league with receivers of stolen goods. The property exposed to depredation on the Thames shortly before the establishment of the river police was estimated at an annual value of more than sixty millions sterling.

JEREMY DIDDLEY IN PARIS.—Jeremy Diddle has found out a new and very safe mode of getting a good Christmas dinner gratis. He looks out in the streets for a decently-dressed young man loafing about, and tells him he knows his parents. The youth naturally enough mentions their names and something about them, and speedily fancies that Jeremy knew beforehand what he tells him. Mr. Diddle then asks his young friend to take a repast with him in the nearest restaurant—say Philippe's, in the Rue Montorgueil. A youthful appetite rarely refuses such an offer, and the pair are speedily installed at a table served with fish, flesh, and fowl, and the most expensive wines. When coffee is brought in, the host leaves the table for a moment, saying he is going to buy some cigars. No suspicion is excited, for, according to all tavern usages, one of two diners is considered good security for his companion. But the unconscious accomplice in the swindle remains, probably asking for more liquor to while away the time till lights are put out. Then the *débarquement* comes. He has not a crown in his pocket, and declares that he knows nothing of the "friend" who asked him to dinner. He passes the night in the lock-up, and the next morning is claimed by his friends and released, nobody knowing what has become of Mr. Diddle. In a case of this kind it was stated in the Correctional Court that, three years ago, a man left his niece in pledge at Philippe's, and returning the other day found she had been adopted by the house, and installed as a *dame du comptoir*. The only token she gave of recognising her uncle was to instruct the waiter to tell him that if he wanted cigars they were to be had in the house.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 29.

BANKRUPTS.—R. YATE, Mayfair, clerk—G. BARRETT Kingston-on-Hull, Joiner—W. JOHNSON, Matlock, Ironmonger—J. SIMPSON, Birmingham, coal-merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—D. STEWART, Lechlair, farmer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1.

BANKRUPTS.—W. H. SMITH, Bermondsey, ropemaker—F. ATWOOD, Brighton, boot and shoe machinist—J. HIPKINS, Prince's End, Staffordshire, iron-founder—J. KEEGAN, stockport, draper—W. DAY, Nottingham, lace-maker—T. MOFFATT, Manchester, commission agent—J. F. MACKINNON, Sydney, ROBBINS, Birmingham, leather merchant—F. G. SILCOCK, Cheltenham, auctioneer—H. WRIGHT, Birmingham, attorney-at-law.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. COUTTS, Dundee, watchmaker—J. CRAWFORD, Cambuslang, bookkeeper—J. REID, Glasgow, farmer—W. HASTINGS, Strimington, miller—J. ROEBER, Edinburgh, hairdresser—J. O. WRIGHT and R. B. MACDONALD, Glasgow, bottlers.

ARTIFICIAL EYES, LEGS, ARMS, & HANDS. GROSSMITH'S

PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL LEGS.—with patent action Knee and Ankle Joints—enable the patient to walk, sit, or ride with ease and comfort, wherever amputated. They are lighter in weight, less expensive, and more durable than any self-acting Leg hitherto introduced, and are worn by Ladies and Children with perfect safety. They were awarded the highest medals at the London and Paris Great International Exhibitions, and pronounced by the Surgical Juris to be "excellent in manufacture, well constructed, and on a system superior to all others."

The PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL EYES have now been brought to the greatest perfection, and are so easy of adaptation that they are fitted in a few minutes, without pain or operation, in any case where sight has been lost. The colours are perfectly matched, and a movement obtained precisely in accordance with the action of the natural eye. They are the only Artificial Eyes which have been awarded Prize Medals at the Great International Exhibitions of London, Paris, and Dublin.

MANUFACTORY, 175, FLEET-STREET, LONDON. Established 1870



year's rent of a stall has been lost since the opening of the spacious and handsome structure, it is to be feared that the very opposite conditions prevailing at Deptford may conduce to failure, or, at least, to a great waste of capability. Certainly, a fine chance has presented itself for greatly augmenting the meat supply of the metropolis through the rivalry of two adequate markets. So far as the sanitary question is concerned, we seem to be less wise than were those citizens of London who, in the year 1380, petitioned that butchers might be forced to kill their beasts at Knightsbridge. Even if the bone-boiling and other abominations of Belle Isle do not spring up in the neighbourhood of the new market, it will be almost impossible to prevent subordinate nuisances such as are inseparable from the aggregation of large numbers of animals, and it is feared that there will be speedily at work influences sufficient to baffle the continuous efforts which have been made by Mr. W. J. Evelyn, the benevolent owner of the surrounding property, to promote the health and comfort of the poorer inhabitants of Deptford.

The dockyard, comprising an area of twenty-two acres, of a generally trapezium shape, with a river frontage of 1012 ft., included a tidal basin of an acre and a quarter in extent, with seven "slips," or deep excavations, in which vessels were built, these being covered by four great sheds, and nearly half the remainder of the area was occupied by ranges of buildings, houses, yards, and gardens. The object of the City Markets Committee was not to clear this space and then erect such a handsome and complete market as should throw into the shade the accommodation at Islington, and equal the design which has transformed and adorned Smithfield, but merely to construct a market, "in such a manner," says the Markets Committee's report, "as appeared to be sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act." The officers of the Privy Council obliged the committee to provide a considerably greater extent of accommodation than the committee itself originally projected, and the Corporation having let slip a very large portion of the whole period allowed them for the work by the Act of 1869, the only plan available was to utilise the ship-building sheds, supplement them by rapidly-constructed buildings with little brickwork, and convert some of the substantial and roomy stores or workshops into slaughter-houses. The admirable arrangements by which all this has been carried out were designed by Mr. Horace Jones, F.R.I.B.A., the City Architect, who designed the Smithfield Dead-Meat Market, and the new library and museum, the new roof, and other important improvements at the Guildhall. In July last operations commenced by the demolition of certain buildings, and by filling up the slips—principally with the earth and rubbish excavated from the site of the new Law Courts, and partly with mud dredged from the river bed for the purpose. The conversion and erection of buildings was hardly commenced till September, and the heaviest part of the work was the transformation of the Admiralty store-houses into slaughter-shops. By connecting together the three great sheds around the dock basin the architect has formed the principal roofed-in area, in ground plan of a pentagonal horseshoe form, with the basin in the middle, and the side next the river left uncovered. From the two ends of this horseshoe range of lairs, two separate piers or landing-stages, 350 ft. apart, project into the river; and a third landing-stage, 400 ft. further east, is provided for a long shed, which stands apart from the other lairs. Each pier, consisting of timber-work of a very strong and superior character, projects 172 ft. from the frontage, terminating in a transverse stage 95 ft. in length, flanked by dolphin piers; and upper and lower fixed platforms, one 14 ft. above the other, are being constructed for unloading at high or low tide. At low tide there is a depth of 12 ft. or 13 ft. of water, so that steam-vessels can lie alongside the pier-head to discharge cargo at any state of the river, and three vessels may be unloading simultaneously. Should disease appear in any of the cargoes, one pier, or two, out of the three may be kept disinfected. Cattle and sheep will walk off the ship along a gangway, just as passengers pass off a river steam-boat; and Mr. Philcox, the clerk of the market, has contrived an arrangement of gates and of removable posts and chains for receiving the animals at any part of the stage front and preventing accidents. A traversing steam-crane, with a jib projecting 35 ft., will land in a sling any animal unable to make his own exit from the ship. Close by the shore-end of each pier is a house for the immediate slaughter and melting down of any animals condemned as unfit for human food; an excellent arrangement being contrived for hoisting each carcass, lowering it into a strong iron cylinder, something like a steam-boiler set on end, and digesting it by means of steam of a high pressure. Animals not condemned by the inspectors will pass into the covered lairs or pens; and the horseshoe range of sheds is divided, by two brick walls, into four large compartments, for the better separation of healthy and suspected cargoes. The shed-roofs of the "slips," some 80 ft. or 90 ft. in height to the ridge, were open at the sides; but these have been converted into houses, by side inclosures of wood framing, the lower portion boarded, the upper part glazed, with a large aggregate area of opening panes and of glass louvres inserted for ventilation. The pens are paved with brick on edge, and the roadways, of 20 ft. breadth, passing down the centre of each building are of granite pitching. The new roofs uniting together the slip-sheds are of wood and slate, carried upon iron pillars, and are about 15 ft. in height. In one place have been fitted up a few iron pens, constructed of iron stanchions and round bars, while some sheep-pens, with opening and shutting hay-racks, testify to the ingenuity of Mr. Rudkin, their designer. But nearly all the cattle and sheep pens are constructed of stout oak posts and bars, two different varieties of headstall for feeding and watering having been contrived according to the practical knowledge of Mr. Rudkin and Mr. Brewster, two active members of the City Markets Committee. Water-troughs of wood, connected together by short lengths of pipe, are fitted in most of the cattle-pens; but some have smaller troughs of iron, and water is turned on by a cock at the end of each row of headstalls, the cast-iron water mains being filled by the Kent Waterworks Company from their artesian wells. Iron hay-racks are hoisted in the sheep-pens. Each lair is well lighted at night by gas standards. The cattle pens are 24 ft. wide, and 60 ft. to 90 ft. long, according to the breadth of the building; the pens running transversely from the central roadway to the side wall, while 6 ft.-broad passages divide pen from pen. Each sheep pen measures 27 ft. in length by 10 ft. wide, the fences consisting of wooden uprights, with iron round bar rails; and small iron drinking-troughs are placed upon the ground and connected by pipes, so that water flows from one to another.

By a rough estimate there must be more than 5½ acres of these lairs under cover: and the exact calculation, from the number of pens, is that, with an allowance of 30 square feet per beast, there is accommodation for 4000; or, allowing 22 square feet per beast, there is a space for 5300. At 5 square feet for sheep, there are pens for 11,500; or, at 4 square feet for sheep, there are pens for 14,500. This is about double the extent of cattle lairage under cover, and four times the sheep lairage under cover which existed at Odams's Wharf. As a test of the sufficiency of this house accommodation, take the maximum importation arriving in readiness for a Monday market; this occurred on Oct. 15, 1865, when 4074 beasts, 171 calves, 426 pigs, and 14,500 sheep arrived in London from Harwich in the course of a Saturday and Sunday. It would appear, therefore, that the Deptford market is capable of warmly housing, feeding, and watering any number of foreign cargoes likely to arrive for any one market day. The animals will be sold alive in their pens, and then butchered in the abattoir.

These ranges of fine slaughter-shops have been formed of the arsenal and store-rooms, a quadrangular pile of brick buildings standing midway between the two blocks of lairage shedding, and intended for a very different use when they were erected in the last century, around the remains of an old monastery, which still stands, bearing the date A.D. 1512. The cattle slaughter-houses occupy two parallel rows, with a court between, each row being divided into ten shops, of which the dimensions are 43 ft. in length

by 23 ft. in breadth, and each of these shops is parted into two bays by iron pillars supporting truss-rod girders. The internal height is about 22 ft. The partitions are of wood, the lower portion closed, the upper part consisting of open upright wood rails. The floor is asphalted, except that about one third next the slaughtering end is paved with large flag-stones. A wooden pound outside the entrance receives each beast till his turn comes for the pole-axe. And here come in some remarkably ingenious arrangements for facilitating the butcher's operations and the disposal of the carcass. The bullock, knocked down and bled to death, is to be hoisted up on a wrought-iron "cross-tree," which serves in turn for all the bullocks killed in that way. After being flayed and deprived of entrails and offal, the carcass will be hung by the embrids to a couple of hooks, which can traverse a pair of suspended rails or iron bars, and is thus made to pass easily to the exit end of the slaughter-shop. When "set" and cut into sides of beef, each side will be still supported until purposely lowered into the salesman's van backed in at the doorway for the purpose. The hoisting is effected by a crab or windlass turned by hand; and for the traversing and lowering of the meat are provided simple arrangements of chains and pulleys, of which the action cannot be well described without a diagram. There are six separate slaughter-houses for sheep—namely, three measuring 42 ft. by 24 ft. each, and three measuring 28 ft. by 24 ft. each; and, as 300 to 450 sheep can be hung up in one house, this amounts to an accommodation for killing 2200 sheep without removal. At Odams's Wharf four sheep slaughter-houses, each of 50 ft. by 15 ft., were found sufficient for the killing of 3500 sheep per day. At that wharf were also eleven cattle slaughter-houses, consisting of three measuring 60 ft. by 30 ft. each, and eight measuring 50 ft. by 16 ft. each, in which were sometimes butchered as many as 700 beasts per day. And if this space of 11,800 square feet in eleven shops was capable of such a rate of performance, the Deptford space of 19,700 square feet in twenty shops ought to permit of many more cattle being slaughtered in the same time. The maximum rate of slaughtering 700 bullocks and 3500 sheep in a day at Odams's Wharf would not have been found quite sufficient for emergencies which may occur, such as very hot weather, the detention of vessels by fog or by stormy weather, or a glut attracted by a sudden rise in prices. Hence it appears that ample accommodation for both buying and butchering is provided at the Deptford market; and, indeed, the smaller fittings, such as the "crutch" and the "fat-tray," are now in perfect readiness for use. Every arrangement for drainage, cleansing, and ventilation has been carefully attended to, and a long line of marine barracks and workshops has been furnished with stables and van-houses for use by the salesmen and butchers, with stores for hay, offices, &c.; while a tavern and coffee-house, with a limited number of beds, have not been forgotten.—*Tim es.*

NEW MUSIC.

Beautiful Danube. Galop. By JOHANN STRAUSS. A. Hammond and Co.

The name of Strauss will be accepted as sufficient recommendation for this galop. On its merits, however, the piece is worth attention. Its grace and vigour, as well as its adaptability to the general run of performers, are indisputable.

The Wide-Awake Quadrilles. Composed for the Pianoforte by C. MARRIOTT. R. Cocks and Co.

Mr. Marriott has here produced a set of quadrilles thoroughly *dansante*. Their themes are agreeable, and the music presents no difficulty to an average player. On the titlepage is a portrait of a Maltese terrier, very much alert.

God Save the Queen. God Bless the Prince of Wales. God Bless our Sailor Prince. God Bless the Prince of Wales. Arranged for the Pianoforte by BRINLEY RICHARDS. R. Cocks and Co.

The first three of these loyal pieces are published in the cheapest possible form, so as to be used where large numbers of copies have to be supplied. There is nothing new to say about them; and, as regards the fourth, Mr. Richards's transcription of his now famous air, it will suffice to point out that he has refrained from overloading the theme with ornament.

Our Noble Prince, Thank God, is Spared! Thanksgiving Song. Written and composed by LOUIS EMANUEL JEFFERYS.

This is another loyal effusion, suggested by the happy recovery of the Heir Apparent, which will be popular, we suppose, for a season. At all events, it has received grateful acknowledgment from the parties most immediately interested in the event it celebrates—Her Majesty and the Princess of Wales.

Slumber Song for Voice and Piano. Composed by CONSTANTINE BURGEL. A. Hammond and Co.

A somewhat ambitious movement, andantino, in C major, the melody given chiefly to the violin, with arpeggio accompaniment for piano. There is a tendency to abrupt transitions into remote keys, against which M. Burgel will do well if he guard himself. Otherwise we have nothing but commendation for the piece. It is well written, pleasing, and not so difficult as to be unfitted for amateurs. Works of the sort are becoming more and more necessary now that the home use of other instruments than the piano is spreading fast.

The Heavenly Tear. Adapted to English words by Miss Macfarren; music composed by JULIUS STERN. A. Hammond and Co.

The idea of this song is truly poetical, and Miss Macfarren has given it expression in good English verse. Herr Stern's music has the merit of being appropriate and pleasing, while the accompaniment is studiously made easy. Amateurs may turn their attention to the song with profit. The key is E major—highest note E.

Witches' Dance, for the Pianoforte. Composed by BERTHOLD TOURS. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

We have here some light and characteristic music, in D major, with just a tinge of what passes current as the supernatural element in composition. The piece, though very animated, is not difficult, all the passages lying well under the hand. It deserves a share of the patronage bestowed upon the class of works to which it belongs.

May Day. A Cantata. Written by John Oxenford; composed by G. A. MACFARREN. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

"May Day" is no longer "new music," having been heard all England over; but we may, nevertheless, call attention to it here as appearing in a new, handsome, and cheap form. Few who have sympathy with "good old English ways," or love for music animated by the good old English spirit, will fail to possess themselves of a work which eminently reflects both.

Novello's Part-Song Book. Vol. VI. and VII. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

These volumes are wholly devoted to music from the pen of Mr. J. L. Hatton. In vol. vi. we have a collection of thirty-five pieces for mixed voices, including new arrangements of old favourites, which originally were written for male voices alone. In vol. vii. are twenty-four male-voice compositions; and with regard to these it will be enough if we mention that they include such pleasant acquaintances as the "Tar's Song," "Beware," "Jack Frost," and "Star of the Summer Night." Both volumes will find a hearty welcome among societies for the practice of vocal concerted music.

AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR PRESERVING PEACE.

MR. J. STUART MILL, in his "Representative Government," says of the United States, "The tribunals which act as umpires between the Federal and State Governments naturally also decide all disputes between two States. The usual remedies between nations—war and diplomacy—being precluded by the Federal Union, it is necessary that a judicial remedy should supply their place. The 'Supreme Court' of the Federation dispenses international law, and is the first great example of what is now one of the most prominent wants of civilised society—a real international tribunal." The force of the decisions of such a tribunal would be mainly or wholly that of moral power. It is not to be assumed that this power would absolutely render war impossible, or succeed in reconciling all cases of international dispute; but it would go very far in that direction. It would be an infinite gain over the existing system of brute force; and it would prevent some wars at least, if not all. Some able writers—as, for example, Professor Seeley and Mr. Frederick Seebohm—have advocated "the ultimate sanction of international law is physical force," and that the representative Court of Jurists must have power to enforce their verdicts by the collective armies of the united nations in whose name they may speak. But not so. As long as armies are to be sanctioned at all, it may be that the present system, bad as it is, is a less evil than the possible contingency of the brute force of a family of nations, who might happen to be in the wrong, being united to crush one or more individual nations who might happen to be in the right. Truth often resides with the small minority; and even a majority of nations might be wrong. But the tyranny of a majority, or of a mob, whether it be a mob of nations, a Ku-Klux mob, or a Paris revolutionary mob, is apt to be the very worst of tyrannies. Therefore, the final power of an International Tribunal must be one of law—of law and of moral force alone. And such a force would truly be a mighty one. The imperfect example of the Trent case* showed that even amid the most excited passions there was great weight attached to the quiet, dignified, collective verdict of the nations when peacefully offered. It is precisely upon the peacefulness of the verdict that its influence would largely depend; for it is evident that, in many cases, the threat of armed compulsion, however delicately and distantly implied, would make a high-spirited nation prejudiced from the outset against the verdict tendered with such an alternative in case of non-compliance.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

The following article appears in the *Temps* of Tuesday:—

"We may be excused from taking any glance backwards over the disasters which have marked with an ever-enduring sign of mourning in the history of France the year which has just passed away. Those recollections are sorrows, which it seems to us more dignified and more salutary to bury within one's own mind, or to refer to them only to derive from them the inspiration of manly resolutions. There is something which is worse than the levity which forgets—the levity which makes use of the misfortunes of the country for the sake of rhetoric or mere loquacity. Alas! it makes one tremble to find how few traces our misfortunes have left in many minds. It did at one time appear as though the nation would henceforth be united in a sentiment of common liability for the faults committed, and of zeal to prepare for better destinies, and that individual ambition and party rivalries would be subordinated to the sacred cause of national restoration. But that noble ardour endured only for a few weeks. Who now thinks about the ransom we have still to pay? Who recoils that the enemy still occupies a portion of our territory? Only yesterday the conqueror made us taste once more the bitterness of our defeat by an insulting despatch. Can it be said that this new humiliation has led us to become somewhat more like what we should be? We have no desire to ignore what has been done in the course of the last year to repair the evils caused by the foreign and the civil wars. It would be singularly unjust towards the Assembly and the Government to forget the heaviness of the task which was imposed upon them and the devotion with which they have applied themselves to its accomplishment. The country has reconstituted a regular Government, reorganised its army, met its engagements, and the close of that lamentable year 1871 leaves France once more settled in the proper position of a great people applying itself to labour with that courageous industry which is its characteristic. But what has been done is but a trifle as compared with what remains to be done. The great danger at this moment is that the country and the Assembly which represents it may regard their task as limited to a simple restoration of affairs. There is a risk that they may conceive that they will have done everything when they shall more or less have brought things to the point of apparent prosperity at which they stood before the war. If this idea should prevail in the end, then the fate of France will be sealed. It is not a question of again becoming the France of former times—not that of 1815, nor of 1830, nor of 1851, and we will add no more that of '89 or '92 than of 1848. The question is, whether we shall sincerely enter upon the course prescribed by new necessities and of practical measures; it is a question whether we will frankly accept the conditions of modern society. If in religion, in finance, in industry, in military organisation we find nothing better than to return to our conscription, our tariffs, our university and scholastic systems, to our devotion to Mary, to all that superannuated, out-of-date, childish civilisation, we have, indeed, the right to do so, but at the same time we shall proclaim our incapacity to renew ourselves. Now, a nation, like an individual, lives only upon condition of continual change; the progress consists in getting rid of old things to adopt new ones. There is, we must say, a cause for uneasiness. We have before us as a Government an assemblage of honest and capable men such as the country has not seen for a long time conducting its affairs. At the head of this Government is an extraordinary statesman, who has had the honour at an advanced age to render to France such services as few citizens have ever been called upon to render to their country. History will pay to M. Thiers the debt of gratitude which party passions too often at present ignore. History will also, we believe, be more just towards the Assembly than contemporary opinion shows itself. Placed at a distance, it will perceive that the Assembly has shown substantially wisdom, patriotism, and a desire for liberty. But while admitting all this, the fact remains none the less, that whether it be the fault of the Government or of the Assembly, there is still wanting in the direction of affairs and the guidance of the public mind some breath of innovation and of boldness. There may be good intentions and love of country, that may readily be admitted; but we have not seen that vivacity of conception, that ardent emulation which urges other nations upon unexplored paths. We know not how to represent the future under other forms than those of the past. We dread the unknown. France, with all its revolutions, remains bound to routine. It has been our misfortune that innovation should only be represented among us by Radicalism. But Radicalism is only the semblance of progress. It is but a kind of routine, one which never can extricate itself from the traditions—oral, ritual, theatrical, and demagogic—of our earlier revolutions. It has nothing in its programme. When it has attained to power it has only succeeded in provoking reaction by alarming the people. Radicalism is but a violent method of dealing with politics. But

* In 1861 an officer of the Federal Government, acting on a lynch-like impulse, transgressed the law of nations by forcibly taking the two Confederate Ambassadors, Messrs. Slidell and Mason, from a British mail-steam—the Trent. Almost immediately and spontaneously the chief Courts of Europe communicated to the Washington Government their verdict that this act was contrary to international equity. And this simple "collective opinion," definitely and unitedly expressed, greatly influenced the Federal authorities in arriving at their conclusion to surrender the two captives. In like manner, it may be confidently expected, a systematic utterance of the "collective opinion" of the family of nations, or of the chief of them, especially when given forth by a representative body of their best jurists or most intelligent men, would largely restrain war.

if violence can only aggravate our misfortunes, it is still true that we stand in need of great changes. And there, we repeat, is the danger for France at this moment. France flirts itself in a crisis of development, and the question for it to consider is whether it will resume its place among nations, or whether it will fall in arrears among the slugs and the career which, in these times, impels progressive nations towards unknown destinies."

The *Patrie*, in its review of 1871, describes the year which has just elapsed as the gloomiest which any Frenchman living has passed through. During those twelve months of anxiety and humiliation no trace can be found, it maintains, of a single really consoling day. To find an equally mournful period in the history of France it would be necessary to go back to the darkest times of the fifteenth century. In the opinion of the *Patrie*, the saddest reflection is that, after losing military superiority, territory, and civic honour, a still more valuable thing has been lost—viz., the opportunity of national regeneration. Two occasions offered—the fall of Gambetta and the meeting of the Bordeaux Assembly. France should have finished with the revolution; but, no, she trusted to M. Thiers and his expedients, and now Gambetta is again coming to the front, and the Germans only await his restoration to undertake their second invasion.

HOMELESS CHILDREN.

WEDNESDAY was a great day for the boys and girls received in the training-ship *Chichester*, the Farm School, and the refugees in town. In the first place they had a good dinner of roast meat and plum-pudding, at the Boys' Refuge, in Great Queen-street; and immediately afterwards the most deserving of them received from the hands of the Lord Mayor, in the Freemasons' Hall opposite, the prizes which had been awarded to them for their good conduct.

The boys from the *Chichester* were brought to town early in the day, and, headed by their band, paraded most of the principal streets of the West-end. Their dress naturally induced many of the spectators to associate them with the Navy, nor was the association altogether an erroneous one, as many of these youths, picked up in the streets of London, or in sheer despair seeking a refuge in the homes of the society, have, after proper training and discipline, passed into her Majesty's service. The boys from Bisley—the Farm School, as it is officially and appropriately denominated—who are clad in a more military fashion, were also brought to town, and, uniting with the inmates of the London home, who are clad in more absolutely civilian attire, joined their sisters in misfortune and relief at dinner at one o'clock. The dinner was, as those provided at the house in Great Queen-street—not the Freemasons' Tavern, but the cobbler's shop opposite—always are, a plain but excellent one. As many slices of good roast beef and browned potatoes; as much good, solid plum-pudding—rich, too, with its solidness—as you can eat, and what more can any once destitute boy or girl desire? Certainly nothing more was required by any of the youngsters, varying in age from about five to fifteen or sixteen, who were present at the banquet on Wednesday. And when the move was made from the dining-room on the north to the drawing-room on the south side of Queen-street there was certainly no unsatisfied appetite and no dissatisfied minds among either boys or girls.

The proceedings in the "Drawing-room," as we have ventured to name, "for this occasion only," the Freemasons' Hall, were of a business rather than merely a social character. When the 630 children who had been the guests of the afternoon were seated, the Lord Mayor entered the room, accompanied by several of the friends and patrons of the institutions interested in the proceedings of the day. As soon as his Lordship had taken the chair, the children sang "God Bless the Prince of Wales." Then Mr. Williams, the earnest and indefatigable secretary of the association, read a statement of the results of the society's operations since it was established twenty-nine years ago, with an income of £180 a year, and more especially during the past year, showing that from so small a beginning there had arisen five day and night and ragged schools, four homes, and the training-ship in which more than 600 boys and girls were being educated. Unfortunately the last year's income was £2000 short of that of 1870, and so far the resources of the institution had been crippled. At the same time £3000 was specially required to enable the committee to remove the girls' home from Broad-street to a house which they had purchased at Sudbury, near Harrow, and to provide accommodation for forty more destitute girls. And this sum it was proposed to raise from the public as a thank-offering for the recovery of the Prince of Wales. When Mr. Williams had concluded his statement, the Lord Mayor proceeded to the distribution of the prizes—medals, books, workboxes, and desks—to the boys and girls in the schools or the training-ship, and to the young women who, having left the school, have for from one to five years acted as domestic servants with credit to themselves and satisfaction to their employers. As he delivered to each the reward of his or her good conduct, his Lordship said a few words of approval and appreciation; and it was pleasant to notice the modest but unassuming air with which the lads who had travelled half over the globe, and young women who are acting as cooks or nursery-maids at Highbury or Brixton, received the silver medal or bright-covered works which were presented to them as the reward of their well-doing. The editors seemed to be especially popular with the spectators; but the servant-girls, with their plain dresses and neat caps, were also warmly applauded by the lads and lasses in semi-military uniforms or brown frocks and holland pinafores, who almost filled the hall, as well as by the ladies and gentlemen, of whom there were not a few who had come to witness the proceedings. The prizes having been distributed, Mr. W. Fitzwilliam moved, and Capt. Mackenzie seconded, a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, which was carried by acclamation, the recorder mentioning that letters of apology for their absence had been received from the Marquis Hamilton, who was in attendance upon the Prince of Wales; and Mr. Scudamore, who had promised to assist the committee in the formation of a telegraphic class; as well as from Colonel Duplat Taylor, who had received into the offices of

the East and West India Dock Company one of their boys as a telegraphic clerk, at a salary of £30 a year. The Lord Mayor briefly thanked the company for the compliment which had been paid him, expressing his high estimation of the good which was being produced by this association, and his appreciation of the services rendered by the committee and teachers; and the proceedings closed with the singing of the first verse of the National Anthem.

A GROUP OF ENOCH ARDENS.

ABOUT eight years ago, during the cotton famine, a man named George Byron left Oldham to seek a livelihood in America, leaving a wife and child behind. Upon his arrival in America he opened a correspondence with his wife, which, however, he shortly after broke off; and, nothing being heard of him for some time, it was thought he was dead. Last week, however, he returned, laden with presents for his wife and child, who he anticipated would be ready to receive him with open arms. To his chagrin, he found she had remarried, and was the mother of three children by her second husband. At first she refused to recognise her former husband. The three subsequently met, talked the matter over in a "business-like manner," and agreed that the woman should stay with her second husband, and the first husband should have his child.

An event which lately happened in Missouri is thus related by the *Cincinnati Enquirer*:—"A one-armed horseman, lately travelling through Missouri, stopped at a blacksmith's shop in Cedar City to have his horse shod. The smith noticed his empty sleeve, and asked him if he had lost his arm in the war. He replied with a sigh that he had, and added with much emotion that on going back to his home at the close of the war he found that his wife, who thought he was dead, had moved away, and he had since been unable to obtain a trace of her. 'What is your name?' asked the blacksmith. 'J. M. Waldrup,' was the reply. The smith suddenly released the hoof of the horse, over which he had been bending, and, without looking at the ex-soldier, cried, 'Follow me into the house,' and hurriedly led the way. Waldrup mechanically obeyed the unexpected bidding, and was ushered into the presence of a comely matron, about whose sewing chair three happy children were playing. She was the blacksmith's wife, the mother of his little ones, and rose to greet the stranger on his appearance with her husband at the door. No sooner, however, did she catch sight of his face than she uttered a heartrending shriek and fainted. In Waldrup she recognised her husband. In the firm belief that he had been killed in the war she had married the blacksmith of Cedar City, and was already the mother of three fine children. After the first agitation of the assembled group had subsided, Waldrup and the smith retired to the smithy to talk the matter over. Devotedly as the smith loved his wife, he fully admitted Waldrup's superior claims, and it was in the end agreed that she herself should decide between them. They accordingly returned to the sitting-room, where, after a torrent of tears and self-reproaches, the wife came to the conclusion that she ought to return to her first husband. Suddenly dropping her head, however, on the blacksmith's shoulder, she declared with bitter lamentations that she could not leave her children. The smith 'eyed her wistfully' for a moment, and then said, in a husky voice, 'You shall take them, my dear.' Some hours later, when the steamboat *St. Luke* stopped at the landing, Waldrup went on board with 'his thickly-veiled and still weeping wife,' and the blacksmith followed, leading the children. The boat's bell rang for the starting. The dread moment of separation was at hand. The captain, the crew, and the passengers were affected to tears at the touching scene. 'With great drops rolling down his tawny cheeks,' the smith kissed the children one after the other, and bade the mother an eternal good-by. He then shook hands long and earnestly with Waldrup, and walked quietly to the shore. He never turned his face towards the boat, which soon passed out of sight, but strode on with head bowed down to the home where the voice of his wife and children would welcome him no more. Let us hope that his grief was sincere."

Some two months ago a man named Goddard, who had been employed for some years at Guy's Hospital, but who had recently left that establishment, was missing, and no clue being discovered, it was feared that something untoward had happened to him. A short time after the body of a man was found in the Thames at Battersea, which was identified by Mrs. Goddard, without hesitation, as that of her husband. A verdict of "Found drowned" was returned, and the body was followed to the grave by the wife, who has, of course, ever since worn widow's weeds. On Saturday last, however, Goddard returned to his former home and was recognised by his astonished wife. He stated that, being unable to get employment, he went to Brighton, where he had been working ever since. The body supposed to have been his was that of some one else. Goddard has also been recognised by some of his former fellow workmen.

OBITUARY.

LORD KENSINGTON.—On Monday afternoon Lord Kensington died, at Sandhill Park, near Taunton, Somerset, from an attack of bronchitis. The late William Edwardes, third Baron Kensington, born at St. Ubes, near Lisbon, in 1801, was the eldest surviving son of William, second Lord, by his wife Dorothea Patricia, daughter of Mr. Richard Thomas. He was educated at Eton, and afterwards entered the Navy, in 1814, on board the *Bellerophon*, flag-ship of Sir Richard Goodwin Keates. He was appointed, in 1826, to the flag-ship of Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, and took part in the battle of Navarino, and for his gallant conduct on that occasion was invested with the command of the *Gannet*. He went on the retired list, as a Captain in the Royal Navy, in 1856. In 1861 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Pembrokehire. The late Lord, who succeeded his father in August, 1852, married (Oct. 12, 1833) Laura Jane (who died in 1846), fourth daughter of Mr. Cuthbert Ellison, of Hopburn, Durham, and by whom he had a family of two sons and five daughters. The eldest son, Colonel the Hon. William Edwardes, M.P. for Haverfordwest, succeeds to the title. He was

born in May, 1835, and married, in 1867, Grace Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Robert Johnstone Douglas, of Lockerbie. He was educated at Eton, and was for some years in the Coldstream Guards, from which regiment he retired, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, in 1867. After being appointed a Vice-Lieutenant of Pembrokehire in 1862, he was returned, at the general election in 1868, the representative in the House of Commons for Haverfordwest.

ARCHDEACON PRATT.—The death is announced of the Venerable John Henry Pratt, M.A., Archdeacon of Calcutta. He was educated at Caius College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1833, when he was Third Wrangler, the Masters of Christ's and Sidney Sussex Colleges being also Wranglers. In 1838 he was appointed to a chaplaincy in connection with the East India Company, and in '50 was nominated to the Archdeaconry of Calcutta, which he held up to the time of his death. He was the author of "Mathematical Principles of Mechanical Philosophy," "Scripture and Science not at Variance," and some other works.

THE REV. DR. DIXON.—The Rev. James Dixon, D.D., an eminent Wesleyan minister, died on Thursday se'night, at his residence, Wellesley-terrace, Manningham, at the age of eighty-three. With the exception of the Rev. Thomas Jackson, he was the oldest minister in the Wesleyan Society. He was widely known as the author of several theological and biographical works. He was, some years ago, the President of the Wesleyan Conference. He was a representative of the Conference on one occasion in a visit to the United States. He was a prominent and influential leader in Conference, and the earnest promoter of its various mission schemes. He began his mission life at Gibraltar in 1812, and, returning home after a brief interval, he continued to labour as an energetic and untiring minister on circuit in various parts of England for the long period of nearly sixty years. He was an able and eloquent preacher, and was exceedingly effective as a platform speaker. He had resided in Bradford during the last twelve years, and had continued his pulpit ministrations to a very recent period. He had lost his sight some years ago, and was popularly known as "the blind preacher." In the pulpit he had a most patriarchal and venerable appearance, and was often compared in this respect to Wesley. His mental faculties remained unimpaired to the last moments of his life. His loss will be deeply regretted throughout the Wesleyan Society.

A POISONING CASE IN MARYLAND.—The trial of Mrs. Wharton, at Annapolis, began on Dec. 4, excites much interest in the United States, and is likely to be of great length. Mrs. Wharton, the widow of Major H. Wharton, of the United States army, is charged with the murder, by poison, of General Ketchum, a retired officer of the Quartermaster-General's department. The two families, the Whartons and the Ketchums, were on terms of intimacy, and General Ketchum had lent Mrs. Wharton 2600 dollars, for which she gave him her promissory note, paying the interest half-yearly. According to the case for the prosecution, General Ketchum, in June last, went to visit her at her house in Baltimore, taking (as is believed) the note with him, in order that he might receive the amount lent to her, as she intended to go to Europe, and he might want the money before her return, or, as he said to his son, might never see her again, she being in delicate health. He had not been long at her house before he was taken ill, and in four days he died. The symptoms led the physician to suspect that poison had been taken; and the indictment is described as charging poisoning by tartar emetic, by yellow jasmine, or by some poison unknown. The physician first prescribed crocote, afterwards yellow jasmine, and later (on using a catheter) had occasion to give chloroform, followed by chloral. Mrs. Wharton purchased tartar emetic while General Ketchum was at her house, and used that drug at night (in the presence of one of the witnesses for the prosecution) for a plas'er which she applied to her chest. She was frequently with General Ketchum during his illness. There was evidence tending to show that she administered an overdose of medicine, and that it had a different appearance from that made up from the prescription and produced in court, the one being cloudy and the other clear. The post-mortem examination developed no natural cause of death; tartar emetic was found. A witness, deposing to General Ketchum's condition while ill, stated that he said he was getting better, but had been quite ill; that Mrs. Wharton had poisoned him in a glass of lemonade. The prisoner's counsel objected to this "jocular remark" being given in evidence; it does not appear that it was made in Mrs. Wharton's presence; the statement is described as unexpected, and it was expunged. The deputy marshal of police deposes that after General Ketchum's death he told Mrs. Wharton that she ought not to think of leaving for Europe until the affair was cleared up; she thanked him for all the information he had given her in the case, and requested his acceptance of a 20-dollar note; but he declined it, saying he could not take presents. When the General's clothes were packed up, to be sent to his house after his death, his vest could not be found. On inquiry, Mrs. Wharton said it was in her war robe, and it was found there. Her promissory note for 2600 dollars cannot be found. She alleges that she paid it off some months before, and then destroyed it. She also claims that General Ketchum is in her debt; that she handed to him four Five-Twenty Bonds for 1000 dollars each, to be sold by him and converted into other bonds. There were no witnesses to either of these transactions; and it is stated that there is no trace of either in General Ketchum's books, which were kept with minuteness. There is another indictment for attempting to poison Mr. van Ness, a bank clerk, who had transacted financial affairs for Mrs. Wharton, and who called at her house when the General was staying there.

THE THAMES POLICE.—This force now comprises one superintendent, 29 inspectors, and 111 constables, or a total strength of 141 men. The range of duty is limited above by Chelsea Bridge and below by Barking Creek, and the river is divided, for purposes of surveillance, into three districts. The first extends from Chelsea Bridge

to London Bridge, and has as its head-quarters the Royalist, now moored off the Temple. The middle and most important district is situated between London Bridge and Greenwich Hospital, and has its station at the edge of the river, in 255, High-street, Wapping. The third district ranges from Greenwich to Barking Creek, and has as its station the *Scorpion*, which is anchored off Folly-wall, near Blackwall. The upper district has 6 inspectors and 27 constables; the middle district, 19 inspectors and 66 constables; and the lower district, 4 inspectors and 17 constables. There are from sixteen to twenty ordinary "duty" boats, each being manned by an inspector and two or three constables; and the inspections are carried on day and night by reliefs every five or six hours, the boats being kept constantly moving in their respective districts. The legal jurisdiction of the force extends to the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Essex, and the city of London and its Liberties, and exists in and on all creeks and inlets of the river, as well as the adjacent wharves, docks, and quays. The duties of this body of police consist mainly in the protection of merchandise in ships, and on barges, boats, and waterside premises, and keeping the river clear of known thieves. They also prevent crimps from boarding newly-arrived ships, assist the officers of the Thames Conservancy in preventing sailors and others from throwing rubbish into the channel, give prompt notice of fires on the river to the floating brigades, enforce the regulations for the conveyance and safe custody of gunpowder and other combustible or explosive materials, and assist in carrying out the provisions of the Smoke Nuisance Abatement Act. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade has four floating engines on the Thames, situated respectively at Millbank, Westminster, Bankside, Southwark, Platform, Rotherhithe, and off Limehouse. There is also an engine stationed off Woolwich belonging to the Royal Dockyard. The Thames police force was established in 1758, chiefly by the exertions of Mr. Colquhoun and a committee of West India merchants, and the force was embodied with the Metropolitan police in 1839. The depredations committed on the Thames before the establishment of the police were estimated by Mr. Colquhoun at ten millions sterling, between 10,000 and 11,000 persons being concerned in various modes of robbery on the river. These thieves were classified as heavy horsemen, light horsemen, mud-larks, rat-catchers, scuffle-hunters, &c., all of whom were in league with receivers of stolen goods. The property exposed to depredation on the Thames shortly before the establishment of the river police was estimated at an annual value of more than sixty millions sterling.

JEREMY DIDDLEY IN PARIS.—Jeremy Diddle has found out a new and very safe mode of getting a good Christmas dinner gratis. He looks out in the streets for a decently-dressed young man loafing about, and tells him he knows his parents. The youth naturally enough mentions their names and something about them, and speedily fancies that Jeremy knew beforehand what he tells him. Mr. Diddle then asks his young friend to take a repast with him in the nearest restaurant—say Philippe's, in the Rue Montorgueil. A youthful appetite rarely refuses such an offer, and the pair are speedily installed at a table served with fish, flesh, and fowl, and the most expensive wines. When coffee is brought in, the host leaves the table for a moment, saying he is going to buy some cigars. No suspicion is excited, for, according to all tavern usages, one of two diners is considered good security for his companion. But the unconscious accomplice in the swindle remains, probably asking for more liquor to while away the time till lights are put out. Then the *éclaircissement* comes. He has not a crown in his pocket, and declares that he knows nothing of the "friend" who asked him to dinner. He passes the night in the lock-up, and the next morning is claimed by his friends and released, nobody knowing what has become of Mr. Diddle. In a case of this kind it was stated in the Correctional Court that, three years ago, a man left his niece in pledge at Philippe's, and returning the other day found she had been adopted by the house, and installed as a *dame du comptoir*. The only token she gave of recognising her uncle was to instruct the waiter to tell him that if he wanted cigars they were to be had in the house.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 29.
BANKRUPTS.—R. YATE, Mayfair, clerk—G. BARRIETT Kingston-on-Hull, joiner—W. JOHNSON, Matlock, ironmonger—J. SIMPSON, Birmingham, coal merchant.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—D. STEWART, Lochlee, farmer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1.

BANKRUPTS.—W. H. SMITH, Bernersday, ropemaker—F. ATWOOD, Brighton, boot and shoe machinist—J. HIPKINS, Prince's End, Staffordshire, iron-founder—J. KEEGAN, stockport, draper—W. DAY, Nottingham, lacemaker—J. MOFFATT, Manchester, commission agent—J. P. MACKINNON, Ryde, ST. ROBBINS, Birmingham, leather merchant—F. C. SLOCUM, Cheltenham, auctioneer—H. WRIGHT, Birmingham, attorney-at-law.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. COUTTS, Dundee, watchmaker—J. CLAWFORD, Cambuslang, ironworker—C. REID, Gibley, farmer—W. HASTINGS, Symbington, miller—J. ROEBER, Edinburgh, hairdresser—J. O. WRIGHT and R. R. MACDONALD, Glasgow, bottlers.

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